

23<sup>RD</sup> BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

# LIVING

*the good news*

BRISBANE • JULY 7-12, 2025



CONGRESS *Souvenir* PROGRAM

# PRAY FOR EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD THIS YEAR



## BAPTISTS ONE IN PRAYER

*A Weekly Prayer Guide Delivered to Your Inbox*

Each week the Baptist World Alliance team gathers to pray for specific countries within the global Baptist family and the world. You can join us in this global prayer initiative! Sign up to receive a weekly prayer guide with the latest BWA updates as well as praises and prayer requests from countries across the globe.

Sign Up Today at [bit.ly/BWAEEmail](https://bit.ly/BWAEEmail) or Scan Below

ENGLISH



ESPAÑOL

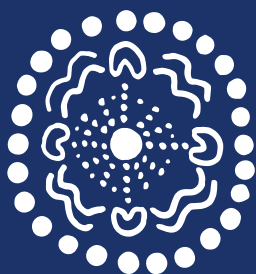


FRANÇAIS



PORTUGUÊS





23<sup>RD</sup> BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

# LIVING *the good news*

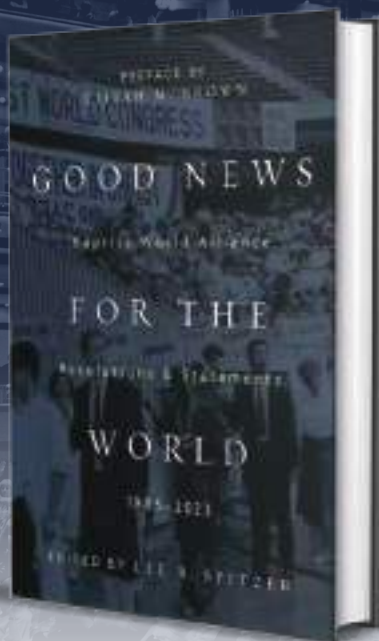
“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim *good news* to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

*Luke 4:18-19*

**“Few books are indispensable to those writing about and for Baptists, but this is among them.”**

**Paul S. Fiddes, FBA**

*Professor of Systematic Theology  
Regent's Park College  
University of Oxford*



Since 1905, the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) has served as a prophetic witness for Jesus Christ on behalf of the global Baptist family. At its World Congress, General Council, and Executive Committee meetings, over four hundred resolutions and statements have been adopted, expressing God's love, compassion, and justice. ***Good News for the World*** is an encyclopedic reference work presenting the BWA's resolutions in one volume for the first time.

The range of critical issues covered by this collection is comprehensive, and many of the resolutions speak to contemporary concerns with multicultural wisdom, spiritual integrity, and intellectual depth. Readers seeking to discover how Baptists on a global scale and across time have addressed the human condition in its various dimensions (moral, social, economic, political, and religious) will be inspired by these declarations. Edited by BWA Historian Lee B. Spitzer with a preface from BWA General Secretary Elijah M. Brown, this volume is an indispensable resource for the global Baptist movement and its scholars, historians, leaders, and clergy.



***Visit the BWA Merchandise Area or scan the code to purchase your copy today!***



# Table of Contents

Welcome & Special Greetings.....	1
Preparing Your Heart.....	11
Weekly Schedule Overview.....	12
Pre-Congress Summit Information.....	14
Congress Daily Schedule.....	16
Bible Study Information.....	22
Preaching Symposium.....	44
Breakout Sessions / Affinity Groups.....	48
Congress Humanitarian Aid and Development Focus.....	68
Prayer Opportunities.....	72
Global Stage.....	77
An Event for the Whole Family.....	78
<i>Congress Kids</i> .....	78
<i>Congress Teens</i> .....	79
<i>Babies &amp; Toddlers</i> .....	79
About the BWA.....	80
Congress History.....	82
Regional Fellowships.....	84
Exhibitor Information.....	91
Event Partners .....	100
Event Sponsors.....	102
Helpful Information.....	105
App / Virtual Networking Platform.....	109
Acknowledgments.....	110
Maps.....	112
Notes.....	115

---

## YOUR CONGRESS GUIDE

The Baptist World Congress is the largest global gathering of Baptists, prayerfully planned and facilitated by the BWA Team and hundreds of sisters and brothers around the world. As a networked family from 134 countries and territories and 266 member partners, we reflect unity in diversity with a wide variety of ministries, cultures, theology, and perspectives represented. Please note that individual speakers, presentations, and ads may not necessarily reflect the full or official position of the BWA or its individual members.

We pray this Congress Souvenir Program will be a useful resource for you during your Congress experience and as a souvenir you can enjoy for years to come as you reflect on our time together in Brisbane. The information in the program is correct at the time of going to print, but individual circumstances may require changes to the program. Please refer to the WHOVA app for the most up-to-date information.

## YOUR BWA TEAM

It is our honor to serve as we gather for the 23rd Baptist World Congress and throughout the year as we strive to live out God's global mission together. We invite you to stop by the BWA booth this week so that we can greet you in person and express our thanks for your faithful partnership with us.

Wissam al-Saliby  
Glenn Mark Arnobit  
Ayoola Ayodele Badejo  
Elijah M. Brown  
Jeff Carter  
Carolina Carro de Mangieri  
Sherrie Cherdak  
Allen Chimombe  
Mike DeLorme  
IyanuOluwa Paul Durogbola

Claudia Escobar  
Everton Jackson  
Rebecca Hembery  
Kyle Henderson  
J. Merritt Johnston  
Julie Justus Williams  
Maddie King  
Koffi Soké Kpomgbe  
Tim McCoy  
Shirley Porto

Aruna Priya  
Orel Rhodes  
Marsha Scipio  
Dana Seville  
Lee Spitzer  
Lauren Sterling  
Jenny Stewart  
Scott Stearman  
Monica Teal

---

**NETWORKING THE BAPTIST FAMILY TO IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST**



In 1905, 3,000 Baptist leaders gathered in Exeter Hall in London and lifted their voices at the first Baptist World Congress:

*From distant climes, from every land,  
Behold us, Lord, before Thee stand.*

BWA Baptists, let us echo that same spirit of worship and unity as we gather for the 23rd Baptist World Congress and celebrate 115 years of shared witness. With more than 3,000 leaders registered from over 100 countries, we gather in worship as an expression of the essential oneness of Baptists in the Lord Jesus Christ. Together we share a common confession of faith in Jesus Christ and are bonded together by God's love to support, encourage, and strengthen one another while proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit before a lost and hurting world.

Anchored in Jesus' inaugural sermon in Luke 4:18-19, our theme is Living the Good News as:

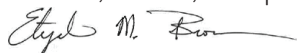
- Incarnational Community
- Freedom Pursuers
- Disruptable Disciples
- Anointed Proclaimers

Let us give ourselves wholly in worship to Jesus Christ. For Jesus is the "radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven" (Hebrews 1:3). Let us worship, sing, pray, repent, and turn fully to Jesus as the one who is worthy.

Let us grow together in love as one family in Christ in shared relationship with one another as interdependent disciples. United in diversity, "in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others" (Romans 12:5). Let us befriend, share testimonies, and turn fully to love one another as one worldwide family.

Let us go together as Gospel witnesses into the wounds of the world as servant ambassadors of righteousness and justice. For Jesus calls us to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). As every Baptist is a missionary, would you turn fully to join the call of this Congress to an unprecedented collaborative global mission of witness to every neighborhood in every nation?

One Lord, one faith, one baptism – BWA Baptists Living the Good News,



Rev. Elijah M. Brown, PhD  
General Secretary and CEO

**NETWORKING THE BAPTIST FAMILY TO IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is with deep joy and warm hope that I welcome you to the 23rd Baptist World Congress here in Brisbane, Australia. What a gift it is to gather as a global family, united in Christ and rooted in our Baptist convictions.

This Congress is a meaningful gathering where God speaks through the richness of diversity and the beauty of unity. Within this Congress, our worldview expands, and our minds are opened. We discover the richness of human experience and the many ways of being Baptist around the world. We are reminded that our Baptist family is both one and many—diverse in expression, yet strong in unity.

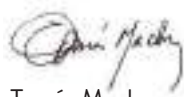
A Baptist World Congress reveals mission fields, broadens our brotherhood, and strengthens the church's vision and mission. We meet fellow believers living in vastly different social and cultural realities. We learn how faith integrates into every sphere—religious, political, cultural, and social.

The Baptist Congress shows us that even when we are divided or in conflict, we can still pray together. We can still listen, love, and walk together. We see more clearly the beauty of God's creation, the variety of the Spirit's gifts, and the aesthetic power of the gospel in worship and art. We learn to celebrate what God is doing in every corner of the world.

Under the theme "Living the Good News," we are called to embody the hope, justice, and love of Jesus in our daily lives. The Good News is what we proclaim and live together.

Thank you for being part of this historic gathering. May your days in Brisbane be filled with the joy of fellowship, the wonder of learning, and a renewed passion for God's mission in the world.

In Christ's love and service,



Tomás Mackey  
President (2020-2025)  
Baptist World Alliance



**NETWORKING THE BAPTIST FAMILY TO IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST**

Hello my dear Brothers and Sisters from around the world!

Welcome to the 23rd Baptist World Congress. We have been anxiously awaiting this week and the privilege of getting to know you and fellowship with you in Brisbane, Australia! We look forward to seeing how the Lord will speak into our lives afresh during this week. Many prayers have gone forth over the past five years as we planned and looked forward to this day. That is why our theme is designed to encourage us to do more than talk about our relationship with Christ but to live it out every day.

Some of you have come from places where the Gospel is freely proclaimed while others have come from places where your very lives are endangered for telling this Good News. And in spite of your circumstances, whether in freedom or persecution, you have faithfully and courageously spread God's Word with lost and despairing people.

May this week bring you new friends and prayer partners and a renewed sense of joy and vitality in Jesus to carry on the work that has been assigned to your hands.

This is a great week to get encouraged and revived in Jesus so that it may always be said of you that you are "Living the Good News!"

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Bobo Sr.  
Congress Committee Chair



Welcome to the Baptist World Congress 2025!

On behalf of the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation, it is with great joy that we welcome you to Brisbane, Australia, for the Baptist World Congress 2025.

As the host region, we celebrate this opportunity to unite Baptist believers from around the world as Baptists Together Transforming Lives in Christ across the Asia Pacific. The Asia Pacific is home to many cultures, languages, and traditions, reflecting the wonderful creation of God. What a privilege and delight it is to welcome each one of you – every delegate who has journeyed here to participate in this wonderful event.

Hearing the theme “Living the Good News,” we are reminded of what Jesus said that He has come to bring good news to the poor and to give sight to the blind. “Living the Good News” calls us to embody the transformative power of the gospel in every aspect of our lives; to bring healing to those who are weak and poor in spirit; bring the good news of salvation for sinners. It also means calling every disciple to share the Good News of Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:19–20). As we come together from all the corners of the world, let us rejoice in the bond of one Baptist family, a global network of 53 million Baptists in 134 countries and territories unified by a mission to impact the world for Christ.

Friends! This Congress is more than just a meeting of people from different countries. The BWA Congress is and has always been a time for a vibrant, Spirit-led encounter with God through worship, learning, listening, attending workshops and fellowshiping with one another.

We thank the Baptist World Alliance for its leadership and the Australian Baptist Ministries who have worked tirelessly to make this Congress possible. May the time spent together be refreshing to our spirits; messages inspire and deepen our faith; and fellowship strengthen us to boldly live the good news beyond the walls of our home, church, region.

On behalf of the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation, as the host region, Rev. Mark Wilson and I welcome all our dear friends from around the world (Baptists and non-Baptists) to this beautiful city of Brisbane and to the 2025 Baptist World Congress! May “Living the Good News” become the motto of every believer and may the joy fill our hearts as we celebrate God during these days in Australia.

Sincerely in Christ,

Vesekhoyi Tetseo (Vee), Th.D  
General Secretary, APBF

Rev. Mark Wilson  
Chair, APBF



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On behalf of Australian Baptist Ministries, it is our joy and privilege to welcome you to the Baptist World Alliance Congress here in the beautiful city of Brisbane, Australia.

As Baptists from across the globe gather for this sacred and inspiring event, we extend our warmest greetings to each of you. Whether you have travelled thousands of kilometres or are joining us from nearby, your presence is a testament to the unity we share in Christ and the commitment we hold to serving God's Kingdom together.

Australia is a richly diverse nation, and our Baptist movement reflects that same vibrant tapestry of cultures, languages, and expressions of Christian faith. As you take part in the Congress, we pray you will experience the warm hospitality for which Australians are known, and be enriched by the spiritual fellowship, meaningful worship, and challenging conversations that this gathering provides.

This Congress is more than a meeting—it is a celebration of our shared mission, a time of renewal, and a call to action. We come together with open hearts to listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the churches. We believe that what happens here will echo far beyond Brisbane, bringing fresh vision and deeper unity to our global Baptist family. We are better together.

We are especially delighted to host you in Brisbane, a city known for its natural beauty, cultural richness, and welcoming spirit. May you find moments of peace and reflection as well as joy and encouragement during your time here.

As we worship, learn, and serve together this week, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ bind us in love, the wisdom of God guides our deliberations, and the power of the Holy Spirit move mightily among us.

Once again, welcome to Australia. We are blessed to have you here.

In Christ's love and service,  
Rev. Mark Wilson  
National Ministries Director  
Australian Baptist Ministries  
[baptist.org.au](http://baptist.org.au)

## WELCOME TO THE 23<sup>rd</sup> BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of Queensland Baptists and the Congress Local Arrangements Committee, it is my great joy and honour to welcome you to Brisbane and to the 23rd Baptist World Congress. As we gather from more than 100 nations under one banner of faith, we are reminded of the beautiful call in Isaiah 62:10:

*"Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people.  
Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations."*

This scripture has guided and inspired us throughout our preparations. It captures the very essence of what this Congress represents — a gathering of the global Baptist family in unity, hope, and celebration.

Our volunteers and teams have laboured with love and joy to ensure that your time here is meaningful, uplifting, and seamless. Their generous service reflects the spirit of Christ among us and embodies the privilege we share in welcoming you. This is more than an event; it is a sacred opportunity to connect as one body, to worship together, and to be encouraged in the Lord as we seek to live out and share the Good News.

May your experience here deepen your faith, broaden your fellowship, and renew your calling.

Welcome to Brisbane. Welcome home.

In Christ's service,

Rev. Stewart Pieper

Director of Church Services, Queensland Baptists

Chair, Congress Local Arrangements Committee



Rev. Elijah M. Brown, PhD  
General Secretary and CEO  
Baptist World Alliance  
*By email*

12 March 2025

Dear Rev. Brown,

I am delighted to send greetings to the 23rd World Congress of the Baptist World Alliance from the Churches of the Anglican Communion. I am sorry that I am not able to attend in person, due to a prior overseas commitment, however I am very pleased that the Rt Revd Sarah Plowman is able to be with you in Brisbane. I have asked Bishop Sarah to bring this word of greeting on behalf of the Anglican Communion.

You are exploring the theme 'Living the Good News'. I rejoice to hear this, as the world is in such great need of the hope God offers in Christ. Your work to deepen collaborative mission across the whole Baptist family is timely and I pray that God will bring good fruit to bear and bless you all in your ministries. Baptists around the world inspire us all with your passion for the Gospel.

It is very good that the ecumenical family of churches is renewing our common faith in the Triune God as revealed in Scripture. All Christians of many traditions kept a common Easter this year on 20 April, bearing a common witness to the Resurrection of our Lord. Many are focussing on the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea and the Creed and statement of faith that bears that name.

God calls us all to unity. I pray that the work of your Congress may encourage us all to be one in Christ.

Yours in Christ,



Rt Revd Anthony Poggo  
Secretary General of the Anglican Communion



## **Global Christian Forum Greetings – 23<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of the Baptist World Alliance**

On behalf of the Global Christian Forum, it is my joy to extend greetings to all of you gathered in Brisbane and to all the faithful within the Baptist World Alliance communion throughout the world.

You meet under the theme of “Living the Good News.” Together you consider not only what it is to proclaim the good news, but to experience it and embody it – here, now, today - in a world that clearly cries out for life in all its fullness. I pray that the Spirit of the Lord is with you as you discern what it is God asks of you in this season.

The GCF is a unique gathering of global Christian churches and organisations bringing together all the major streams of world Christianity. The GCF is an open space where all Christians can meet to nurture unity by fostering mutual respect and understanding as well as by addressing together common challenges.

You are an indispensable part of this transformational space. You bring the richness of the Baptist tradition, a diversity of cultures and ways of worshipping, commitment to faithful discipleship, and a global fellowship that knows what it is to discern how the good news can be shared in and for the world.

The unique charism of the GCF is the sharing of faith stories as a means of building relationships in the context of diversity. This is something you are doing during this World Congress. When you gather to pray together, read scripture together, share about your different contexts, speak freely about what God is doing in your life and the life of your community, and listen closely to others, you come to know more of God’s presence in the world. Moreover, your stories are woven together as a gift to other Christian traditions as they, too, journey as disciples.

Thank you for all that you bring to global Christianity and to the work of Christian unity. May God richly bless this Congress and the Baptist World Alliance in your essential witness to the good news in our time.

With every blessing,

Revd Dr Casely Essamuah  
Secretary  
Global Christian Forum



**Mennonite  
World Conference**  
A Community of Anabaptist  
related Churches

**Congreso  
Mundial Menonita**  
Una Comunidad de  
Iglesias Anabaptistas

**Conférence  
Mennonite Mondiale**  
Une Communauté  
d'Eglises Anabaptistes



[www.mwc-yming.org](http://www.mwc-yming.org)  
[admin@mwcongress.org](mailto:admin@mwcongress.org)

General Secretary:  
César García, Sub-256  
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 3B1  
Canada  
T: +1 (519) 371-0380

Bookkeeping P:  
4102 Muller St  
Kitchener, Ontario  
T: +1 (519) 379-8279

Greetings

From Mennonite World Conference  
To the Baptist World Alliance

23<sup>rd</sup> Baptist World Congress  
Brisbane, Australia, 7-12 July 2025

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I thank God for your witness to Christ and have the privilege of greeting you on behalf of Mennonite World Conference, MWC. MWC is a communion of 110 national Anabaptist-related churches that have come together for fellowship, worship, service, and witness. As you gather this week in July 2025 for your global congress, we commemorated the first 500 years of the Anabaptist movement with a worldwide gathering in Europe this year. We also celebrated 100 years of MWC. We are grateful to have you officially represented at these events a few months ago.

In different settings we have appreciated how your attitude has enriched the body of Christ. This was evident, for example, in the conversations between the Baptist World Alliance and MWC between 1989 and 1992. In the document produced from that dialogue, G. Noel Vose, one of the former presidents of the BWA, said that "all members of the consultations felt a growing sense of sympathy and respect for each other."

As I reflect on the topic of your congress, "Living the Good News," I pray for you and your meeting during these days with the following verse in mind:

"Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:21 NIV)

May the scripture be fulfilled in our churches today. May God's Spirit anoint us to proclaim good news as Jesus did two thousand years ago. May we experience the year of the Lord's favor in our midst!

Blessings,

César García  
General Secretary

*Following Jesus, living out MWC's building peace*



International Headquarters  
London EC4V 4EH

Rev Dr Elijah Brown  
General Secretary and CEO  
Baptist World Alliance

Dear Rev. Dr Elijah Brown and all our Baptist brothers and sisters in Christ,

On this your 23<sup>rd</sup> Baptist World Congress, I greet you warmly in the precious name of Christ our Risen Lord and Saviour!

The wonderful theme of *'Living the Good News'* is a call to celebrate the privilege bestowed on you, and indeed all Christians together: not only to know the Gospel message, but also to translate it into daily living and witness in very practical ways. The Good News is for all generations from all walks of life, to be heard in all languages and through all manners of living.

Living the Good News calls for dedication and creativity on our part. It calls for us to listen carefully and be aware of the context in which it is communicated. General William Booth, Co-founder of The Salvation Army, once said: *'I want to see a new translation of the Bible into the hearts and conduct of living men and women.'* This desire continues to be ours and is needed in a world where so few open the pages of the Bible: we may be the only Bible people 'read'!

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, may we walk the path, wherever God has placed us, convinced that Christ continues to transform lives and communities. He entrusts and enables us to live out the Gospel - to all peoples everywhere - so that we, and so many others can experience the year of the Lord's favour, the realisation of His Kingdom of peace here on earth.

Be assured of the interest and prayer support from your Salvation Army brothers and sisters. May this be a time of great blessing, of equipping and of sending out in the Spirit's power... to truly live the Good News and as we engage with today's world.

*'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news'* (Romans 10:15). Go from here and share that good news with all you meet. May the blessing of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be among you and within you.

Yours, in Christ's service,

Lyndon Buckingham  
GENERAL  
The Salvation Army



# PREPARING YOUR HEART

As we anticipate a powerful move of God during the 23rd Baptist World Congress, we invite you to prepare your heart with intentionality and expectation. This global gathering is more than an event — it is a sacred opportunity to encounter God, to be formed in Christlikeness, and to stand in unity with the worldwide Baptist family.

Here are some spiritual steps to help you prepare:

**1. Center Your Spirit in Prayer** – *“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.” (Jeremiah 33:3)*

Pray for:

- God’s presence to be manifest in every session.
- Spiritual renewal across nations and generations.
- Unity among believers from diverse cultures and contexts.
- God to speak clearly to you — personally and prophetically.

**2. Consecrate Time for Reflection** – *“Search me, O God, and know my heart ... Lead me in the way everlasting.” (Psalm 139:23–24)*

Set aside time during the week for personal spiritual inventory. Ask:

- Where is God inviting me to grow?
- What do I need to release to step into what God is doing?
- How am I embodying the justice, peace, and love of Christ in the world?

**3. Engage with the Word of God**

Spend time in Scripture, especially in passages that speak of unity, mission, and the global church. Recommended readings include:

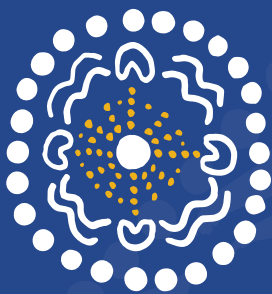
- Luke 4:18–19 – The calling of the Church
- John 17 – Jesus’ prayer for unity
- Revelation 7:9–10 – The vision of every nation worshipping together
- Micah 6:8 – The call to justice, mercy, and humility

Let the Word anchor your spirit in God’s purposes for this Congress.

**4. Cultivate a Posture of Expectancy**

Pray with anticipation for what God will do — in you, in the Church, and in the world. Come to Brisbane not as a spectator but as a servant ready to be sent. Ask God to stir up holy imagination in your heart, expand your love for the global body of Christ, and prepare you to receive a fresh calling or commissioning.

*Together, let us prepare our hearts to meet with God and to walk forward as a global people of faith — ready to live and proclaim the Good News to the ends of the earth.*



23<sup>RD</sup> BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

# LIVING

*the good news*

	Monday				Tuesday				Wednesday										
	July 7				July 8				July 9										
Theme	Women's & NxtGen Leadership Summits				Women's & NxtGen Leadership Summits				Congress										
7:30-8:30 am					Prayer Opportunities				Prayer Opportunities										
9:00 - 10:15 am	Exhibition	Prayer Room	Summits Registration Starts	NXTGEN SUMMIT	WOMEN'S SUMMIT	Aboriginal Cultural Experience	Exhibition	Prayer Room	NXTGEN SUMMIT	WOMEN'S SUMMIT	Mission Experience	Congress Registration Starts 10am	Prayer Room	GBMN	Mission Conference 10:15	Global Stage	Exhibition	AID Symposium 1:30pm	Mission Experience
10:15-10:45 am																			
10:45 - 12:00 noon																			
12:00 - 2:00 pm																			
2:00 - 3:30 pm																			
3:30-4pm																			
4-5:00pm																			
Dinner	Dinner on Your Own				Dinner on Your Own				Dinner on Your Own										
7pm												Opening Celebration							

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

July 7-12, 2025

TIME	Thursday					Friday					Saturday																
	July 10					July 11					July 12																
CONGRESS						CONGRESS						CONGRESS															
7:30-8:30 am	Prayer Opportunities					Prayer Opportunities					Prayer Opportunities																
9:00-10:15 am	Global Stage	Prayer Room	Exhibition	Children & Teen Programs	Morning Celebration	Global Stage	Prayer Room	Exhibition	Children & Teen Programs	Morning Celebration	Global Stage	Prayer Room	Exhibition	Children & Teen Programs	Morning Celebration												
10:15-10:45 am					Transition Break					Transition Break					Transition Break												
10:45 am-12:00 pm					Bible Studies by Language					Bible Studies by Language					Bible Studies by Language												
12:00-2:00 pm				Lunch on Your Own or Ticketed Luncheon					Lunch on Your Own or Ticketed Luncheon					Lunch on Your Own													
2:00-3:30 pm				Children & Teen Programs	Preaching Symposium				Breakout Sessions	Global Stage				Prayer Room	Exhibition	Children & Teen Programs	Preaching Symposium	Breakout Sessions	Global Stage	Prayer Room	Exhibition	Children & Teen Programs	Preaching Symposium	Breakout Sessions			
3:30-4:00 pm																									Transition Break	Transition Break	Transition Break
4:00-5:00 pm																									Breakouts & Affinity Groups	Regional Gatherings	Breakouts & Affinity Groups
Dinner	Dinner on Your Own / Ticketed Dinner					Dinner on Your Own / Ticketed Dinner					Dinner on Your Own																
7:00 pm	Evening Celebration					Evening Celebration					Closing Celebration																

# BAPTIST WOMEN'S SUMMIT

July 7-8, 2025 • Great Hall

The Baptist Women's Summit is a one-of-a-kind, quinquennial event that brings Baptist sisters and brothers together from around the world for a unified time of worship, prayer, leadership development, and ministry mobilization. As we focus on Living the Good News, we will hear how God is at work across each of our seven women's continental unions, learn how to unite in advocacy on the issues most impacting women today, and grow the fellowship and connection of our multimillion member community.

## Monday, July 7

<b>11:00 am</b>	BWA Women Global Leaders Luncheon ( <i>invitation only</i> )
<b>2:00 pm</b>	SESSION 1: <i>Global Community</i>
<b>3:15 pm</b>	Break
<b>3:45 pm</b>	SESSION 2: <i>Global Advocacy</i>
<b>5:00 pm</b>	Dinner ( <i>on own</i> )
<b>7:00 pm</b>	SESSION 3: <i>Summit Celebration</i>

## Tuesday, July 8

<b>7:30 am</b>	Morning Prayer and Intercession
<b>9:00 am</b>	SESSION 4: <i>Global Leadership</i>
<b>10:15 am</b>	Break
<b>10:45 am</b>	Bible Studies and Workshops
<b>11:30 am</b>	Lunch Break ( <i>on own</i> )
<b>2:00 pm</b>	Bible Studies & Workshops
<b>2:45 pm</b>	Break
<b>3:00 pm</b>	Bible Studies & Workshops
<b>3:45 pm</b>	Break
<b>4:30 pm</b>	SESSION 5: <i>Summit Commissioning</i>
<b>6:30 pm</b>	Closing Prayer

# NxtGEN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

July 7-8, 2025 • Mezzanine M3

The NxtGen Leadership Summit is an opportunity for leaders ages 18-35 to come and meet with others from across the globe – worship together, learn from and encourage each other, build friendships and cohorts that could continue long beyond being together in Brisbane. Sharpen your leadership and personal skills.

## Monday, July 7

<b>9:00 am</b>	Registration Opens
<b>10:30 am</b>	Encountering God <i>Speaker: Elijah Brown, BWA General Secretary (USA)</i>
<b>12:30 pm</b>	Lunch (on own)
<b>2:00 pm</b>	Leading/Living the Good News Personally <i>Speaker: Isabella Senior (Brazil/UK)</i>
<b>4:00 pm</b>	Reflection Time
<b>5:00 pm</b>	Dinner (on own or pizza together)
<b>7:00 pm</b>	Leading/Living the Good News in Community <i>Speakers: Kimberly Smith (Australia) and Panel</i>

## Tuesday, July 8

<b>8:30 am</b>	Doors Open
<b>9:00 am</b>	Leading/Living the Good News in an Anxious World <i>Speakers: Kay Warren (USA), Wissam Nasrallah (Lebanon), Kiran Skariah (Australia)</i>
<b>10:45 am</b>	Break
<b>11:15 am</b>	Leading/Living the Good News as an Advocate <i>Speaker: Jayden Battey (Australia) and Panel</i>
<b>1:00 pm</b>	Lunch Break (on own)
<b>2:00 pm</b>	Reflection Time / Workshop Electives
<b>2:45 pm</b>	Break
<b>3:00 pm</b>	Reflection Time / Workshop Electives
<b>3:45 pm</b>	Break
<b>4:00 pm</b>	Digging Deeper Conversations (Plaza Level Rooms) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Peace in a Pressured World: Mental Health and the Gospel - Plaza 1</i></li><li>• <i>Next Is Now: Bridging the Generation Gap - Plaza 2</i></li><li>• <i>Creation and the Kingdom: Following Jesus in a Climate Crisis - Plaza 3</i></li><li>• <i>Digital Disciples: Building Real Community Online - Plaza 4</i></li><li>• <i>She Is Seen: Faith, Voice, and Women's Empowerment - Plaza 5</i></li></ul>
<b>5:00 pm</b>	Dinner Break (on own)
<b>7:00 pm</b>	Summit Closing Celebration – Going Out to Lead and Live the Good News <i>Speaker: Charlie Dates (USA)</i>
<b>9:00 pm</b>	Close

# Wednesday, July 9

## Living the Good News as Incarnational Community

### Time

7:00 – 9:00 pm

### Meeting/Event

Evening Opening Celebration  
(Doors open 6:30 p.m.)

Speaker: Elijah Brown (USA)

### Location

Great Hall



Rev. Dr. Elijah M. Brown is the General Secretary and CEO of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA). In this role, Dr. Brown has the overall leadership responsibilities for the BWA and is its chief representative within the Baptist family and to governments, global organizations and institutions, and other Christian World Communions and faith traditions. Elected as the ninth General Secretary and the youngest in the history of the BWA, he brings strategic and visionary leadership as the principal leader to the Baptist movement as well as a ministry passion for the vision of the BWA to “network the Baptist family to impact the world for Christ.”

## THANKS FOR CARRYING SOMETHING THAT MATTERS

We're Joyya – and we're proud to be a merch partner for this year's Baptist World Congress. If you're holding one of our bags, you're holding something that was made with purpose, dignity & care.

Our products are handcrafted by women in communities overcoming extreme poverty & modern slavery in Kolkata, India. Every tote you're carrying helped create meaningful, fairly paid work & opened doors to a brighter future.

To the Congress team – thank you for choosing merchandise that sparks good.

*Lots of Love*  
**JOYYA**  
www.joyya.com



If you're after ethical, high-quality custom merch that tells a better story, we'd love to talk.

# Thursday, July 10

## *Living the Good News as Disruptable Disciples*

### Time

9:00 – 10:15 am

### Meeting/Event

Morning Celebration

Speaker: John Kim (Korea)

### Location

Great Hall



JOHN KIM

*John Kim is the Executive Director of Good Steward, part of the Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC) in Korea. Dr. Kim studied in the USA and has planted churches in a number of places in Korea. He is an author and the founder of WAFL, a community of artists for artists. He has been involved in broadcasting through FEBC since 2013.*

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

Bible Studies by Language

See Page 22

12:00 – 2:00 pm

Lunch on Your Own

Baylor Lunch *(invitation only)*

Plaza 11

2:00 – 5:00 pm

Preaching Symposium

Preachers: Jason Elsmore (Australia)

Karl Henlin (Jamaica)

TaNikka Sheppard (USA)

Facilitator: Rick Warren (USA)

Plaza Auditorium

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Breakout Sessions & Affinity Groups

See Page 48

4:00 – 5:00 pm

Breakout Sessions

See Page 52

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Dinner on Your Own

Religious Freedom Asia Dinner *(invitation only)*

Plaza 11

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Evening Celebration

*(Doors open 6:30 p.m.)*

Speaker: Dale Stephenson (Australia)

Great Hall



DALE STEPHENSON

*Dale Stephenson is the Senior Pastor at Crossway Baptist Church in Melbourne, Australia, the largest Baptist church in the country. Dale is committed to seeing Australian Christians empowered with simple and replicable means of empowering "Disciples that Multiply." A gifted preacher and teacher of God's Word, he has an enthusiastic approach to making disciples with a contagious delight in Jesus.*



# Friday, July 11

## Living the Good News as Freedom Pursuers

Time	Meeting/Event	Location
9:00 – 10:15 am	<b>Morning Celebration</b> Speakers: Jennifer Lau (Canada) Kay Warren (USA)	Great Hall
	 <p>JENNIFER LAU</p> <p><i>Jennifer Lau began her tenure as Executive Director of Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM) in 2020, the first woman and layperson to hold that position in its 150-year history. Jennifer has served with CBM since 2002, primarily focused on providing strategic direction for all of CBM's partnerships and initiatives in North America. As a passionate believer in local churches being the center of God's mission in a broken world, she seeks to help people situate their own faith journeys within the global community and encourage them to faithfully follow Jesus into the world.</i></p>	
	 <p>KAY WARREN</p> <p><i>Kay Warren is an author, speaker, and Bible teacher. She cofounded Saddleback Church with her husband Rick in 1980 and served there until his retirement from senior leadership in September 2022. After the death of their son Matthew, who lived with serious mental illness for most of his life, she founded Saddleback's Hope for Mental Health Initiative and the Hope for Mental Health Community to provide a safe and welcoming place for individuals and families to receive accurate psychoeducation, build community, and be fully incorporated into the life of the church. In 2024, Kay launched Hope for Brighter Tomorrows, a Christian nonprofit organization that strengthens families impacted by mental health challenges and equips churches to support these families.</i></p>	
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	Bible Studies by Language	See Page 23
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch on Your Own BWAid Luncheon (pre-purchased ticket necessary)	Mezzanine 4
2:00 – 3:30 pm	<b>Preaching Symposium</b> Preachers: Ron Bobo (USA) Lynn Green (UK) Facilitator: Ralph West (USA)	Plaza Auditorium
2:00 – 3:30 pm	Breakout Sessions	See Page 50

# Friday, July 11

## *Living the Good News as Freedom Pursuers*

4:00 – 5:00 pm	<p>Regional Gatherings</p> <p>All Africa Baptist Fellowship</p> <p>Asia Pacific Baptist Federation</p> <p>Caribbean Baptist Fellowship</p> <p>European Baptist Federation</p> <p>North American Baptist Fellowship</p> <p>Union of Baptists in Latin America</p>	<p>See Page 84</p> <p>Boulevard B1</p> <p>Plaza Auditorium</p> <p>Boulevard Auditorium</p> <p>Boulevard B2</p> <p>Boulevard Room</p> <p>Boulevard B3</p>
5:00 – 7:00 pm	<p>Dinner on Your Own</p> <p>2033 Finishing the Task <i>(Invitation Only)</i></p>	Plaza 11
7:00 – 9:00 pm	<p>Evening Celebration</p> <p><i>(Doors open 6:30 p.m.)</i></p> <p>Speakers: Amanda Mukwashi (UK/Lesotho)</p> <p>Marsha Scipio (USA)</p>	Great Hall



AMANDA MUKWASHI

Amanda Mukwashi has devoted 30 years to public service. She has worked in both intergovernmental and non-governmental spaces, bringing in-depth experience from across the development sector. She currently serves as United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Kingdom of Lesotho having previously served as the CEO of Christian Aid, leading development and humanitarian interventions in over 30 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Amanda's areas of focus include leading on tackling violence against women and girls, economic empowerment for women,

delivering services to vulnerable communities, strengthening civil society and localization, engaging in policy change, conflict prevention and diplomacy and delivering results and change management.



MARSHA SCIPIO

Marsha Scipio, originally from Trinidad & Tobago and raised in Brooklyn, New York, serves as the Director of Baptist World Aid. She has the privilege of networking the Baptist family to impact the lives of the world's most vulnerable populations, overseeing the coordination of Baptist-led humanitarian aid efforts. Marsha is also the facilitator of BFAD – the global network of Baptist aid organizations and implementing partners. Marsha is an Associate Minister at Berean Baptist Church in New York, USA - passionate about teaching and preaching God's Word. Marsha is also the Convener of Women Who Minister, a conference to empower women to serve in ministry.

# SATURDAY, JULY 12

## *Living the Good News as Anointed Proclaimers*

### Time

9:00 – 10:15 am

### Meeting/Event

Morning Celebration

### Location

Great Hall

Speaker: Kethoser 'Aniu' Kevichusa (Nagaland, India)



**KETHOSER KEVICHUSA**

Kethoser (Aniu) Kevichusa from Nagaland, India, came to Christ as a teenager and has since served in various kinds of Christian ministry and mission. With ministry ranging from leading worship at conferences to supervising doctoral candidates, Aniu's primary ministry has been as a preacher, apologist, Bible teacher, and mission mobilizer. He currently serves as the Director of Intercultural Learning and Collaboration for BMS World Mission. With an MTh from the University of Oxford and a PhD from the Oxford Centre of Mission Studies, his monograph "Forgiveness and Politics: An Appraisal" was awarded the Gordon Graham Prize for Naga Literature.

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

Bible Studies by Language

See Page 24

12:00 – 2:00 pm

Lunch on Your Own

2:00 – 5:00 pm

Preaching Symposium

Plaza Auditorium

Preachers: Paul Msiza (South Africa)  
Karen Wilson (Australia)  
Bruce Webb (USA)

Facilitator: Ralph West (USA)

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Breakout Sessions

See Page 60

4:00 – 5:00 pm

Breakout Sessions and Affinity Groups

See Page 64

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Dinner on Your Own

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Closing Evening Celebration

Great Hall

(Doors open 6:30 p.m.)

Speaker: Charlie Dates (USA)



**CHARLIE DATES**

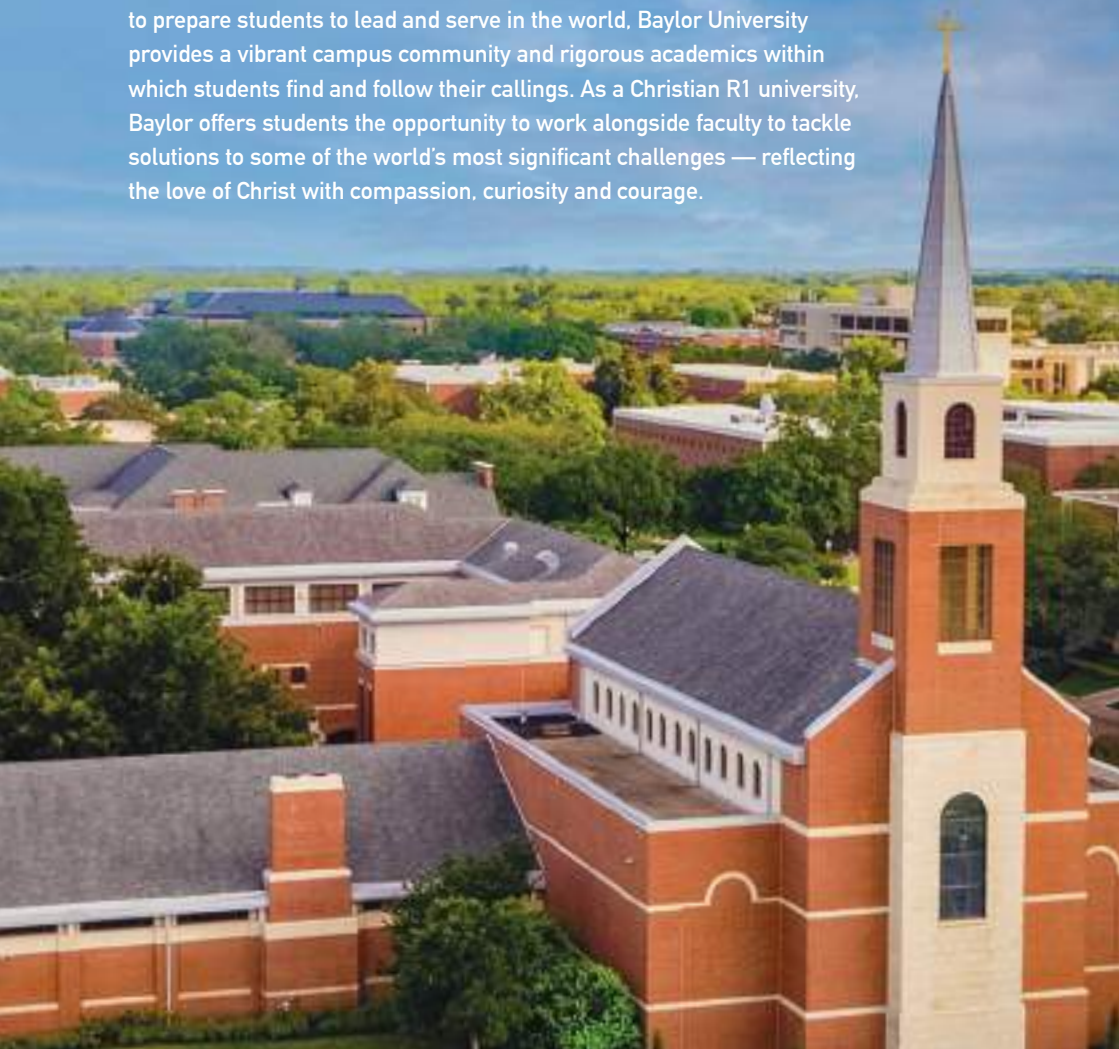
In 2011, Rev. Charlie Dates became the youngest Senior Pastor to serve the historic Progressive Baptist Church, which saw exponential growth under his leadership. He is currently the Senior Pastor of Salem Baptist Church located in his hometown of Chicago. As a highly sought-after speaker, he is widely invited to preach at churches and speak at retreats, conferences, and universities throughout the United States and abroad. His early formation was significantly bent toward the theological reflection of Black people which shapes both his approach to preaching and his thoughts about the transformative role the Black church plays in bringing about the flourishing of a people.

PRO ECCLESIA, PRO TEXANA, PRO MUNDO

# FOR THE WORLD

## GROUNDING IN A BAPTIST FOUNDATION AND GUIDED BY OUR MISSION

to prepare students to lead and serve in the world, Baylor University provides a vibrant campus community and rigorous academics within which students find and follow their callings. As a Christian R1 university, Baylor offers students the opportunity to work alongside faculty to tackle solutions to some of the world's most significant challenges — reflecting the love of Christ with compassion, curiosity and courage.



LEARN MORE [baylor.edu](https://baylor.edu)

# BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

Thursday, July 10 • 10:45 am-12:00 pm

LANGUAGE	PRESENTER	COUNTRY	ROOM
English	Bill Brown	Australia	Boulevard Room
English	Filip Grujic	Croatia	Plaza P4
English	Julio Guarneri	USA	Boulevard Auditorium
English	Kethozelhou Keyho	India	Plaza P10
English	Melinda Cousins	SA, Australia	Plaza P1
English	Merlyn Hyde Riley	Jamaica	Plaza P3
English	Ralph West	USA	Plaza Auditorium
English	Samuel Reeves	Liberia / USA	Plaza P5
English	Samson Adedokun	Nigeria	Plaza P2
English (18-35 yrs)	Andrew Meek	New Zealand	Mezzanine M4
French	Elias Apetogbo	Togo	Boulevard 2
Hakha Chin	Ceu Lian Thang	Myanmar/USA	Plaza P7
Korean	Yong Suk Chon	Korea / Australia	Plaza P6
Mandarin	John Ong	Malaysia	Plaza P9
Portuguese	Filipe Ahrens Espindola	Brazil	Boulevard 1
Russian	Emil Rahimov	QLD, Australia	Plaza Terrace Room
Spanish	Noemí Janson Lidak	Bolivia / Colombia	Boulevard 3



# BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

Friday, July 11 • 10:45 am-12:00 pm

LANGUAGE	PRESENTER	COUNTRY	ROOM
English	Alan Donaldson	Scotland	Plaza Auditorium
English	Anslem Warrick	Trinidad & Tobago	Plaza P5
English	Anthony Dela Fuente	The Philippines	Plaza P3
English	Craig Vernal	New Zealand	Plaza P11
English	John Robertson	QLD, Australia	Boulevard Room
English	Lina Toth	Scotland/ Lithuania	Plaza P2
English	Lisa Woolley/Fred Astle	New Zealand	Plaza P4
English	Micheline Makkar	Syria	Plaza P10
English	Wissam Nasrallah	Lebanon	Plaza P1
English (18-35 yrs)	Marko Grozdanov	North Macedonia	Boulevard Auditorium
Burmese	David Ah Khi Ngwa	Australia / Myanmar	Plaza P8
French	Valérie Duval-Poujol	France	Boulevard 2
Hakha Chin	Sai Lian Thang	Australia/ Myanmar	Plaza P7
Korean	Keunsun Lee	QLD, Australia	Plaza P6
Mandarin	Alex Ho	VIC, Australia	Plaza P9
Portuguese	Fernando Brandão	Brazil	Boulevard 1
Spanish	Jocksan Galeano Ulloa	Nicaragua	Boulevard 3

# BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

Saturday, July 12 • 10:45 am-12:00 pm

LANGUAGE	PRESENTER	COUNTRY	ROOM
English	Brenda Harewood	Guyana / USA	Plaza P2
English	Cesar Sotomayor	Austria / Mexico	Plaza P5
English	Dave Shepherd	SA, Australia	Boulevard Auditorium
English	Duli Asi	Papua New Guinea	Plaza P4
English	Elijah Wanje	Kenya	Plaza P3
English	Lone Møller-Hansen	Denmark	Plaza P1
English	Rick Warren	USA	Plaza Auditorium
English	Stewart Pieper	QLD, Australia	Plaza P10
English	Tamiko Jones	USA	Boulevard Room
English (18-35 yrs)	Brooke Rutherford	VIC, Australia	Mezzanine M4
Burmese	Dr. Sasa	Myanmar	Plaza P7
French	Samson Fatokun	Nigeria	Boulevard 2
Korean	Min Cheol Im	Korea / Australia	Plaza P6
Mandarin	Jun Tan	VIC, Australia	Plaza P9
Portuguese	Hugo Santos Zica	Brazil	Boulevard 1
Spanish	Juan Garcia	Puerto Rico, USA	Boulevard 3





Relentlessly Pursuing God's Plan of Salvation for the Jewish People

Jews for Jesus Australia  
GPO 925, Sydney, NSW, 2001  
Sydney, Australia  
Phone: 0406 632 305  
Email: [admin@jewsforjesus.org.au](mailto:admin@jewsforjesus.org.au)



**TOGETHER**  
WE BRING  
**HELP, HOPE**  
**& HEALING.**



**TEXANS**  
**ON MISSION™**



**TEXANS ON MISSION**  
**DISASTER RELIEF**



**TEXANS ON MISSION**  
**WATER IMPACT**

## **Alan Donaldson (Scotland)**

Alan Donaldson, the European Baptist Federation General Secretary, is a Scottish Baptist Minister. He led two churches as senior pastor and two as interim minister before serving as the General Director of the Baptist Union of Scotland for ten years. Alan is a graduate of London School of Theology and Spurgeon's College, London, and is currently undertaking doctoral studies at Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky.

## **Alex Ho (Australia)**

Alex Ho is currently a Campus Pastor of Asian Languages at Crossway Baptist Church, where he has served for over 16 years, overseeing the Mandarin, Cantonese, and Korean congregations. He also serves as the National Training Manager at COACH Network. Since 2019, he has been pioneering the Chinese COACH Mentoring program to strengthen mentoring efforts for new immigrants and vulnerable people. He is currently working with over 10 Chinese churches in Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane to train mentors to help people in challenging situations flourish. Alex holds a degree in social work as well as a Master of Divinity.

## **Andrew Meek (New Zealand)**

Andrew Meek has been an integral part of the pastoral team at Oxford Terrace Baptist Church in central Christchurch, New Zealand, since 2019. The church, established in 1863, has gained recognition for its impressive rebuild following the 2011 earthquake, resulting in a modern complex with worship spaces, community housing, offices for church staff and ten Christian organizations, and a café. Andrew is passionate about discipleship and equipping young leaders for ministry. He has recently been involved in assisting churches in developing emerging leaders in partnership with Carey Baptist College.

## **Anslem Warrick (Trinidad and Tobago)**

Anslem Warrick is the Senior Pastor of St. John's (London) Baptist Church, Port of Spain, Trinidad, and has given oversight for the Bon Air and Chaguanas Full Gospel Baptist Churches for 34 years. He currently serves as the Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship (CBF) and as a Regional Secretary of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA). He has served as a BWA Vice President (2015-2020), Chair of the BWA Commission on Human Rights, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation (2020-2025), and as a member of several BWA Committees.

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **Anthony dela Fuente (The Philippines)**

Anthony dela Fuente is the pastor of Northside Baptist Church in Bacolod City, Philippines, and has been a teacher for more than 30 years at different seminaries and theological institutions. He is interested in the intersection of theology and popular culture, believing that dialogue between these is necessary for the gospel to be lived out in the present. He has served as the John Stott International Visiting Scholar at Wheaton College. He is also actively involved in mentoring and training emerging leaders through Arrow Leadership Philippines as Program Director.

## **Bill Brown (Australia)**

Bill Brown is a Pastoral Coach with the Baptist Union of Victoria, helping to develop emerging missional leaders, facilitating communities of practice for pastors, training leaders, encouraging, coaching, and supervising pastors. He also continues to serve as Pastor Emeritus of the Syndal Baptist Church where he served as Senior Pastor for 33 years and prior to that as Youth and Young Adults Pastor for 10 years.

## **Brenda Harewood (Guyana / USA)**

Brenda Harewood exemplifies a luminary missional leader within the Christian community, leaving a transformative impact through her unwavering dedication to servant leadership. She has studied in the United States and Germany. As the Superintendent-Pastor and President of the Guyana Missionary Baptist Church-Lott Carey, she orchestrates visionary initiatives, championing both local and global mission outreach, and equipping clergy and laity with essential tools for ministry. Through her collaboration with global leaders, Brenda fosters strategic support, upliftment, and empowerment for the Baptist community and the broader Christian world. She is an inaugural member of BWA's Global Baptist Mission Network (GBMN) Steering Committee.

## **Brooke Rutherford (Australia)**

Brooke Rutherford is the Youth & Young Adults Pastor at Crossway Baptist Church in Melbourne, Australia. With a background in marketing, Brooke has taken her passion for communicating into pastoring one of the largest church youth ministries in Australia. She is dedicated to seeing the next generation of believers rise into positions of leadership, equipped with the good news of Jesus to disciple others towards a relationship with their Savior.

# barnabas brekkie

**You can bring hope,  
one plate at a time.**

Could you host a  
delicious meal to raise  
funds to support suffering  
Christians worldwide?



To find out more go to  
**[barnabasaid.org/brekkie](https://barnabasaid.org/brekkie)**

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **Cesar Sotomayor (Austria / Mexico)**

Cesar was born in Mexico and moved to Brazil with Operation Mobilization Latin America when he was very young. There he found his passion and love for displaced and refugee people, which was followed by serving in Honduras and in rural missions in Mexico. In 2003, he was invited to serve as an intern in Austria at a local Baptist church. He helped plant a new church, and they were surprised by the many people from Afghanistan and Iran as well as Austrians and Germans who came to support them. Since then, Cesar and his wife Simone have been sharing the love of Jesus with countless Afghans and Iranians, pastoring and planting international communities and serving the Lord alongside them. Cesar also serves as the Church Planting Enabler for the European Baptist Federation.

## **Ceu Lian Thang (Myanmar / USA)**

Ceu Lian Thang earned his Master of Divinity from Myanmar Institute of Theology in Insein, Rangoon, in 1992. He began his pastoral journey at Lai Baptist Church, serving for two years before moving to Los Angeles on a student visa. In 1999, he completed his Doctor of Ministry and later relocated to Dallas to support refugees seeking political asylum. He worked full-time at Refugee Services of Texas, serving as an Employment Coordinator in 2007. After five years in that role, he transitioned back to ministry as a pastor at Texas Chin Baptist Church. In July 2022, he was nominated and chosen as the General Secretary of the Chin Baptist Churches USA (CBCUSA), a position he currently holds.

## **Craig Vernall (New Zealand)**

For the past 30 years, Craig Vernall has served as the senior pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in New Zealand. During this time the church has grown to become the largest Baptist Church in New Zealand with a strong commitment to outreach to families, Biblical exposition, and overseas mission. He served as the New Zealand Baptists national leader from 2011-2018. Craig is also presently a vice president of the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation. He enjoys spending time in the huge outdoors of New Zealand and has in recent years hiked 2,700 kilometers of Camino pilgrimage trails through Spain.

## **David Ah Khi Ngwa (Australia / Myanmar)**

David Ah Khi Ngwa began his ministry in 2003, serving first as a Sunday School teacher, then as a Youth Leader, and eventually as the Senior Pastor of his local church in Myanmar. In 2012, David moved to Australia and has since been pastoring the Myanmar Christian Church in Logan. Under his leadership, the church has grown from just three families to more than thirty – guided by a clear vision of loving God, serving others, and building a Christ-centered community.

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **Dave Shepherd (Australia)**

Dave Shepherd is the Lead Pastor of Hills Baptist Church, a multisite church community in Adelaide, Australia, with a vision to see Jesus glorified, lives transformed, and the hope of the gospel revealed throughout the world. He is a co-founder of Ignite Ministries and the One Church podcast where he works with other believers and church leaders to call the Church to unity, prayer, and worship. Dave's heart and gifting is to fearlessly proclaim the truth of the gospel, to raise up the next generation of leaders, and to plant churches that plant churches.

## **Dr. Sasa (Myanmar)**

Dr. Sasa is a humanitarian, medical doctor, Christian, and visionary leader dedicated to building a peaceful and prosperous federal democracy in Burma (Myanmar). His extraordinary journey—from humble beginnings in Chin State, one of Burma's poorest regions (where he witnessed the suffering of his community firsthand), to serving as Burma's Special Envoy to the United Nations, Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation, and Spokesperson of the National Unity Government—is a testament to his unwavering commitment to his people and their future. His leadership has earned global recognition, inspiring world leaders and rallying international support for a free, peaceful, prosperous, and federal democratic Burma.

## **Duli Asi (Papua New Guinea)**

Duli Asi has studied at Christian Leaders Training College (CLTC) in Canberra and has served in parachurch mission organizations, local Baptist Churches, church planting, and Baptist Bible College in Papua New Guinea. Upon his return from studies in Canberra University, Australia, he joined CLTC as a faculty member. He taught pastoral theology, pastoral counseling, and biblical psychology courses, and served as Vice Principal of Administration in Banz for three years. He later became the Dean of Port Moresby Campus for three years. He is currently the senior pastor of Boroko Baptist Church, which is a multicultural congregation in Port Moresby.

## **Elias Apetogbo (Togo)**

Elias Apetogbo is a Pastor and the General Secretary of All Africa Baptist Fellowship (AABF). He is known by Guinos, a ministry that he founded to promote interaction with the Bible. As a great visionary, Elias wants to challenge church leaders and see transformed lives vibrating to the rhythm of the Holy Spirit through the proclamation of the Word of God. He brings experience to his current role from several ministries including Global Outreach (GO Movement), International Prayer Connect, African Regional Prayer Connect, International Fellowship of Evangelical Students, Prayer Covenant, and PureHOPE Coalition.



# Your church members can **show God's love**

**through  
Shoes for  
Orphan Souls.**

**H**elp **grow your church** by providing an experience for your members to give God's love through shoes for children. **Just \$15** can change the life of a child in need.



**80%** of shoes collected are provided to international children in need with **20%** going to children in the United States. **Know a community in need?** Ask us about our process of providing shoes to vulnerable children around the world.





## **Elijah Wanje (Kenya)**

Elijah Wanje has pastored Ridgeways Baptist Church in Nairobi, Kenya, since he planted it with missionary friends in 1989. Since it began, the church has grown to 2,000 members and planted 22 other churches. He has also served as Principal of Kenya Baptist Theological College and in leadership of the Baptist Convention of Kenya and Mount Meru University. He grew up in a family that were among the first converts from the Baptist mission work in Kenya and was able to undertake tertiary studies in various institutions in the USA.

## **Emil Rahimov (Australia)**

Emil Rahimov serves as the Director of CALD Services for Queensland Baptists and as Senior Pastor of the Slavic Baptist Church in Brisbane. With a deep passion for diaspora ministry, Emil views migrant communities as vital partners in fulfilling the Great Commission. He is regularly invited to speak and engage with diverse ethnic communities across Queensland and beyond. Emil plays a key role in supporting the establishment and growth of CALD churches, guiding them toward effective ministry across second and subsequent generations and fostering full integration.

## **Fernando Brandão (Brazil)**

Fernando Brandão currently serves in various roles, including Executive Director of the Brazilian Baptist Convention and the National Mission Board of the Convention, while also leading several seminaries. He holds a degree in Theology from the Baptist Theological Seminary of Minas Gerais and a Masters in Missiology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has three great passions in life: proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus, doing mission, and his granddaughter Olivia.

## **Filip Grujic (Croatia)**

Filip Grujić is the pastor of Zagreb Baptist Church and a member of the Croatian Baptist Union Executive Committee. He is a graduate of the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Amsterdam and currently serves on the European Baptist Federation Commission for Theology and Education. He previously served as the Vice-Chair of the EBF Youth and Children's Executive Committee. He is passionate about the role of the local church in communicating the message of hope to its immediate community through word and deed while maintaining the perspective of the Kingdom of God lived in its global context. He is actively involved with Alpha Course projects in Croatia and serves on the supervisory board of the Croatian Association for Religious Freedom.

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **Filipe Ahrens Espindola (Brazil)**

Filipe Espindola is the President of the National Baptist Convention of Brazil (CBN) and the pastor of Filadelfia Baptist Church. His Pastoring Pastors Project has helped pastors and pastoral families in Brazil and is also impacting other parts of the world such as The Philippines. He follows the example of Jesus on discipleship training and believes in the moving power of the Holy Spirit to achieve his goal.

## **Fred Astle (New Zealand)**

Fred Astle works in a shared leadership model with Visionwest Waka Whakakitenga's Tumu Whakarae/CEO. Fred oversees the whānau-facing support services provided by Visionwest. In his previous role as Head of Māori Development and Education, he led the Māori leadership team to support Kaupapa Māori development across Visionwest. Fred has extensive experience in Māori healthcare and education, including work with government groups, various tertiary institutions, and other nonprofits. He is an Honorary Prof. Teacher Fellow in Surgery at The University of Auckland and is the Director of Kaupapa Māori for The University of Auckland, Surgical and Translational Research Centre, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

## **Hugo Santos Zica (Brazil)**

Hugo Santos Zica is the Pastor of Plenitude Baptist Church in São Luís. A graduate from the Faculdade Batista de Belo Horizonte with Koine Greek advanced studies by the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, he also holds a Diploma in Theology and Pastoral Studies by the London Reformed Baptist Seminary and a Master in Biblical Counseling by Faculdade Batista Logos in São Paulo. He serves as Chairman of the Board of the Baptist Schools in Maranhão and as member-at-large of the State Convention's Board. He has served in ministry for over ten years and has dedicated his ministry to expositional preaching and Biblical counseling.

## **Jocksan Galeano Ulloa (Nicaragua)**

Jocksan Galeano Ulloa has been the General Secretary of the Baptist Convention of Nicaragua since 2018. A third generation Baptist in Nicaragua, he has demonstrated a firm commitment to the expansion of the Gospel and the strengthening of the church in his country and in the region. He also currently serves as Coordinator for Central America in support of the work of Union of Baptists in Latin America (UBLA). With a career marked by his deep vocation for service, his work has extended over the years in various leadership roles, initially working with the national youth of his country and with a very active participation within the National Board of Directors of the Baptist Convention.

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **John Ong (Malaysia)**

John Ong has been the President of Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary since 1997. He is also the Executive Director of the Trans-World Chinese Baptist Mission (since 1998), Founder & Executive Director of Silk Road Gospel Network International, Founder & CEO of Hua Xia Dynamic Mission Berhad, and Chairman of Malaysia United Missions Mobilization. The author of 20 books, John is frequently invited to serve as a speaker at regional and international mission and revival conferences with his ministry spanning six continents, visiting over 70 countries, and serving more than 100 ethnic groups.

## **John Robertson (Australia)**

John Robertson is the Chair of the Australian Baptist Ministries National Council and currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Global Leadership Network Australia and New Zealand. Before taking up this role, John served in pastoral ministry for 29, including the last 13 years as Senior Pastor at Riverlife Baptist Church in Brisbane, Australia. John is passionate about the local church being the vehicle for the Holy Spirit to bring transformation to local communities and believes everybody wins when leaders lead better.

## **Juan Garcia (Puerto Rico, USA)**

Juan Garcia, a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, has studied in Puerto Rico and Virginia, USA. He serves as the Pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista Newport News (the Hispanic Congregation of First Baptist Church Newport News), a church with a multicultural congregation with people from Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. He also serves as the first Hispanic Moderator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

## **Julio Guarneri (USA)**

Julio Guarneri is the current Executive Director for Texas Baptists. He was born in Mexico City and grew up in Monterrey, Mexico, where his parents carried out evangelism and discipleship work among university students in both cities. Julio undertook tertiary studies in the USA. He was licensed to the ministry and pastored his first church shortly after high school graduation in 1984 in Freer, Texas. During his 39 years of pastoral ministry, he has served various churches throughout Texas. Julio Guarneri has served on the board of Buckner International, twice as president, and as first vice-president of Texas Baptists. He has also served as chair of the Stark College and Seminary board and as moderator of the Tarrant Baptist Association.

# The Bible places a high priority on reaching political leaders **FIRST** with God's Word.



This is not because their souls are more precious, but because from their platforms, political leaders may impact many people for God.

Capitol Ministries is seeking men to lead weekly Bible studies to office holders at all levels. We are partnering with churches and individuals to fulfill the Great Commission using the biblical method that was so successful in the First Century. We provide ongoing training, support, and the curriculum—the book, *Oaks in Office: Essential Bible Studies for Political Leaders*—all at no cost.

**How can we expect those who do not know the Author of Scripture to govern in keeping with His precepts?** Capitol Ministries is making disciples of Jesus Christ in the political arena throughout the world.



## Visit the Capitol Ministries booth

and pick up your free book,  
*All in Authority: Reigniting  
the Bible's Top-Down  
Missions Strategy.*

[capmin.org/join-us](http://capmin.org/join-us)

  
**CAPITOL**  
ministries®

## **Jun Tan (Australia)**

Jun Tan is a multicultural pastor and biblical teacher whose life has been a journey of transformation shaped by his diverse experiences and deep faith. Born in Tianjin, China, he grew up in Sichuan Province during the tumultuous years of the Cultural Revolution. After finishing high school, he worked as a tea farmer in Hunan Province before heading off to study rocket science at the National University of Defense Technology and studied in China and Australia. In 1998, Jun had a life-changing encounter with Christ that sparked a new chapter in his life, and he started theological studies. He quickly discovered that pastoral ministry was not exactly rocket science, but it was a challenge he embraced wholeheartedly. He has ministered at several Baptist churches in Melbourne and as an adjunct lecturer at Whitley College. His current role is as senior pastor at Balwyn Baptist Church, a multicultural English-speaking congregation with over a century of history.

## **Kethozelhou Keyho (India)**

Zelhou Keyho has studied in Meghalaya, India, Korea, and the USA and taught at Clark Theological College and Oriental Theological Seminary in Nagaland, India. Since 2015, he has served as the General Secretary of the Nagaland Baptist Church Council. He is an ardent defender of Biblical Christianity and a spokesperson for the persecuted church in the region.

## **Keunsun Lee (Australia)**

Keunsun Lee is a leader with a passion for church planting. He has planted churches in South Korea, New Zealand, and Australia, mentored church leaders in China and Japan, and is currently planting another church in Brisbane, Australia. He has studied in Korea and the United States.

## **Lina Toth (Scotland / Lithuania)**

Lina Toth is the International Director of Langham Scholars Program at Langham Partnership and Senior Research Fellow at the International Baptist Theological Study Centre in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Originally from Lithuania, her ministry has grown over the years to have a global impact. In addition to her work as a theologian, she is also a worship leader. She is particularly interested in ethics, spirituality, and theologies of culture. Her second love is history – not just the dates but the stories and people that have shaped our world. She has authored several books, the most recent of which is *Singleness and Marriage after Christendom: Being and Doing Family*.

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **Lisa Woolley (New Zealand)**

Lisa Woolley is the Tumu Whakarae/CEO of Visionwest Waka Whakakitenga, one of Aotearoa New Zealand's largest community services providers, serving over 50,000 people each year through more than 1,800 employees and volunteers. The organization is well known for its innovative and holistic approach, encompassing a wide range of services to the community. With more than twenty years of experience as an advocate, policy advisor, commentator, leader, and CEO, she is passionate about community development and addressing social issues such as poverty, marginalization, unemployment, and homelessness. In June 2020, Lisa was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for her services to the community and governance.

## **Lone Møller-Hansen (Denmark)**

Lone Møller-Hansen is from Denmark where she has pastored a Baptist church on the Danish island of Bornholm since 2001 and a Gospel Church in Copenhagen. She served as the General Secretary of the Baptist Union in Denmark from 2011-2019. She originally trained as a journalist and has served the BWA on the Executive Committee and as chair of the Human Resources Committee. She has a pastoral heart and a passion for seeing the local church seeking to be relevant to its context.

## **Marko Grozdanov (North Macedonia)**

Marko Grozdanov is a local pastor in Skopje and serves as the President of the Union of the Baptist Christians in the Republic of North Macedonia. A former member of BWA's Emerging Leaders Network, Marko studied at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague, Czech Republic, and the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Osijek, Croatia.

## **Melinda Cousins (Australia)**

Melinda Cousins is the Director of Ministries for Baptist Churches of South Australia and the Northern Territory. She has served as a local church pastor and as a theological college lecturer in Biblical Studies, teaching Old Testament intensives in Zambia, China, and Indonesia. Prior to her current appointment, she served in the areas of global mission and in training and accreditation of pastors. Melinda's two great passions are God's Word and God's world – particularly hearing how God has spoken and continues to speak to us and seeing people respond by worshiping Jesus in their own unique cultural contexts.

# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

## **Merlyn Hyde Riley (Jamaica)**

Merlyn Hyde Riley is an ordained minister with 25 years of pastoral experience. She currently serves as the General Secretary of the Jamaica Baptist Union and the Vice Moderator of the World Council of Churches Central Committee. Merlyn is a practicing ecumenist with significant international experience in preaching and teaching. She relates to diverse audiences and peoples as she seeks to spread the Gospel of Christ through her engaging in the quest for justice, unity, and peace across the world.

## **Micheline Makkar (Syria)**

Micheline Makkar is a distinguished lecturer and speaker, recognized for her contributions to numerous international and national conferences with a particular focus on the Arab world and Europe. She is a leading advocate for women's leadership and actively supports university students in developing their vision for the future. Alongside her husband, she co-produced the internationally acclaimed Syrian film *Damascus Speaks*, which examines the relationship between Paul the Apostle and the city of Damascus. The film premiered in Syria, the Vatican, and various other countries worldwide. She currently serves at the Baptist Church in Damascus, one of Syria's largest congregations.

## **Min Cheol Im (Korea / Australia)**

Min Cheol Im holds a Master of Divinity from Korea Baptist Theological University and Seminary and a Master of Theology in Homiletics from Sydney Divinity College. He is currently serving as the senior pastor of Somang Korean Baptist Church in Brisbane, Australia, a position he has faithfully held for the past ten years. He began his ministry journey at the age of 16, preaching to Sunday school children to assist his father, who was a Baptist pastor. He later served for nine years at Gangnam Central Baptist Church, one of the largest congregations in Korea, where he ministered to Sunday school children, high school students, and university students, eventually serving as the Education Pastor. After relocating to Australia, he led Korean ministries for ten years at Cherrybrook Community Life Church in Sydney. In 2014, he moved to Brisbane and began his pastoral ministry at Somang Korean Baptist Church. Under his leadership, the church has grown from four life groups to 19 and has developed vibrant ministries for children and young adults.

## **Noemí Janson Lidak (Bolivia / Colombia)**

Noemí Janson Lidak is a Christian leader, educator, and Baptist minister known for her impact on the evangelical community in Colombia and internationally. A Bolivian national, she has lived in Colombia for 45 years. Coming from a missionary family, she has dedicated her life to teaching and training leaders. Her legacy is reflected in her commitment to Christian education, impacting new generations with the good news of Jesus, unity, and service to God. Noemí and her husband have led pastoral ministry since 1985. Since 1992,



# BIBLE STUDY LEADERS

Noemí has led Colegio Guillermo Carey, an institution dedicated to Christian education. Through her dedication, vision, and divine guidance, she has established it as a benchmark for the holistic education of children, adolescents, and young people based on biblical principles promoting ethical, spiritual, and academic values. She has also served in leadership roles with the Colombian Baptist Denomination where, under her leadership, the denomination experienced a period of growth and strengthening.

## **Ralph West (USA)**

Ralph West is the Pastor and Founder of The Church Without Walls (Brookhollow Baptist Church, Houston, Texas). The Church Without Walls began with 32 members and now embraces thousands of families meeting each Sunday, meeting in three locations, and conducting five services each Sunday. He first preached as a sixteen-year-old in his native Houston and now also teaches others as an Adjunct Professor of Preaching at Truett Seminary. Pastor West is affectionately known as Pas. Although Pas can boast of a number of degrees, honors, and associations, those who sit under his preaching would most aptly describe his attitude using Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 2:1.

## **Rick Warren (USA)**

Rick Warren cofounded Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, in 1980 and served there until his retirement from senior leadership in September 2022. Rick was named in a *Time Magazine* cover article as the most influential spiritual leader in America and one of the 100 most influential people in the world. Tens of millions of copies of his books have been published in 200 languages. His best known books, *The Purpose Driven Life* and *The Purpose Driven Church*, were named three times in national surveys of pastors (by Gallup, Barna, and Lifeway) as the two most helpful books in print. Rick has spoken in 165 nations, at the United Nations, United States Congress, numerous parliaments, the World Economic Forum, TED, Aspen Institute, and lectured at Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, and other universities. Rick is currently Executive Director of Finishing the Task, a global movement of denominations, organizations, churches, and individuals working together on the Great Commission goals of ensuring that everyone everywhere has access to a Bible, a believer, and a local body of Christ.

## **Sai Lian Thang (Australia / Myanmar)**

Sai Lian Thang is currently serving at Melbourne Chin Church as Senior Pastor. He was born in Tinam village in Chin State, Myanmar. He obtained his BTh degree at Chin Christian University in Chin State. He left for The Philippines in 1999 and graduated with an MDiv at Union Theological Seminary, Philippines, in 2002. He was ordained by Baptist Union of Victoria in 2010.



# UNDERSTANDING THE GOOD NEWS AT WHITLEY

Theological education  
that's **Faithful, Contextual,**  
and **Global.**



Scan to  
discover more



[whitley.edu.au/bwc](http://whitley.edu.au/bwc)

## **Samuel Reeves (Liberia / USA)**

Samuel Reeves is an inspiring man with a hope-filled vision of faith, a powerful community leader, a theological scholar, and a transformational pastor. Born in Monrovia, Liberia, Sam has studied and pastored in Liberia and the USA. As Senior Pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Liberia, for the past 19 years, Dr. Reeves has made Providence one of the most social and politically conscious churches in Liberia. Their outreach ministries ring with preferential treatment for the poor, the vulnerable, and hurting. They minister to and feed about 500 homeless men, women, and children and are in the process of building a Homeless Second Chances Model Center with vision of senior house complexes. The DeVos Village – comprised of a Medical Center, a High School, an IT Center, and Housing Units – located in the Bo-Waterside region is another legacy ministering to and creating interreligious dialogue with Muslims and peoples of other faith practice and extending a vision of Christian Education to other regions of Liberia, ranging from childcare programs for low-income families to after-school programs for battered boys and girls. Sam is co-founder of the National Institute of Leadership, Adjunct Professor at Liberia Baptist Seminary, President of the Liberia Baptist Missionary & Educational Convention, President of Liberia Council of Churches, Vice President of the Inter-Religious Council of Liberia, and Interim President of Grand Bassa University.

## **Samson Adedokun (Nigeria)**

Samson Aderinto Adedokun is an author, speaker, preacher, and the lead pastor of New Dawn Baptist Church in Victoria Island, Lagos. He is a certified John Maxwell Leadership Team member, certified Human Resource Manager, Chairman of the Lagos Central Baptist Conference, and the Board of Governors of the Baptist College of Theology (Igede Ekiti). He is also the Lead at Stretch Splendid Services, a training and consultant outfit.

## **Samson Fatokun (Nigeria)**

Dr. Samson Fatokun was born into a Baptist family and came to know the Lord on Easter Sunday of 1987. His immediate desire to know more about Jesus Christ and a deep hunger for the Word of God led him to the teaching ministry of Union Baptist Church in Osogbo, Nigeria. Right there and from that time, he identified God's gift upon his life for the teaching of the Word of God. He has been teaching in Sunday School settings for over two decades in many countries. Presently, Samson is a Deacon at Christ Baptist Church Gbagada in Lagos, where he is a Sunday School Teacher and leads the Evangelism Ministry of the Church. He was called to the Emerging Leaders Network (ELN) of the BWA in 2006. Samson is an aviation technocrat and works for the International Air Transport Association. He is a witness for Christ in the marketplace.

## **Stewart Pieper (Australia)**

Stewart Pieper grew up in a small farming community in Queensland, Australia, and has been involved in Baptist churches all his life. He came to faith in Jesus at a young age and entered pastoral ministry in 2001. After ministering in two larger regional Baptist churches, he joined the Queensland Baptists (QB) ministry team in 2015. Over the last ten years, Stewart has served in various leadership roles across the QB Movement serving on the QB Board and giving oversight to the ministry arms of QB as the Director of Services and Director of Church Services. He is the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 23rd Baptist World Congress. Stewart is passionate about following Jesus and seeing others living to their full potential as followers of Jesus.

## **Tamiko Jones (USA)**

Tamiko Jones is the Executive Director-Treasurer of Woman's Missionary Union of Texas and an Associate Minister of the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Mansfield, Texas. She appreciates all opportunities to minister to God's people and has participated in missions to many countries and facilitated workshops for numerous Baptist groups. In addition, she served as consulting Minister of Education with the Riverwest Community Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Tamiko finds her greatest joy in moments of mentoring and coaching those seeking to understand the calling on their lives.

## **Valérie Duval-Poujol (France)**

Valérie Duval-Poujol is a French Baptist theologian. Passionate about the Bible and the author of several books, she holds doctorates in History of Religions and Theology and serves on various theological faculties. A Bible translator, she was also the chief editor for the revision of the French Bible Nouvelle Français courant. Active in the fight against domestic violence and sexual abuse, she created an initiative raising awareness on that topic called the "Red Chair Project" and is a member of the steering committee for the BWA Women Stand Against Domestic Violence initiative and website (StandAgainstDV.net).

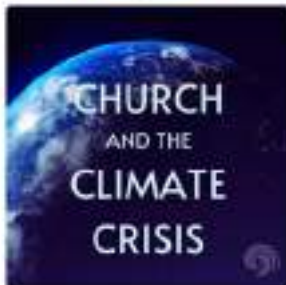
## **Wissam Nasrallah (Lebanon)**

Wissam Nasrallah is the Chief Operations Officer of Thimar, a non-profit based in Lebanon dedicated to strengthening the witness of the church. In 2017, he and his wife Sophie relocated from France to Lebanon to support Thimar's mission. He regularly preaches at Bikfaya Baptist Church and contributes to the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary's blog. His writing focuses on faith, economics, and culture. Additionally, he provides analyses on the current situation in Lebanon and the surrounding region.

## **Yong Suk Chon (Korea / Australia)**

Yong Suk Chon is the Senior Pastor of the Korean Baptist Church in Brisbane. He has studied in the USA and lectured at the Australian College of Christian Studies (SKTC). Pastor Chon teaches Christian Life Skills for Christians encouraging maturity in Christ through real life.


The Baptist New Zealand Podcast Network presents...



+ more podcasts on:

 [baptist.nz/podcasts](https://baptist.nz/podcasts)

 Spotify

 Apple Podcasts

 YouTube



# READY TO DISCOVER YOUR CALLING?

Learn to lead with a  
Christ-centered education  
at Dallas Baptist University.



**DBU**  
Learn more at [dbu.edu](https://dbu.edu)  
or scan the QR code.

# PREACHING SYMPOSIUM

*Plaza Auditorium*

A unique opportunity to hear a variety of excellent sermons on the theme of the day shared by preachers from around the world. Following the sermons, attendees can interact with the speakers through questions related to sermon preparation, message content, delivery methods, and pastoral leadership.

SCHEDULE	THURSDAY 2:00-5:00 pm	FRIDAY 2:00-3:30 pm	SATURDAY 2:00-5:00 pm
PREACHER	Karl Henlin Jamaica	Ronald Bobo USA	Paul Msiza South Africa
	Jason Elsmore Australia	Lynn Green United Kingdom	Karen Wilson Australia
	TaNikka Sheppard USA		Bruce Webb USA
FACILITATOR	Rick Warren USA	Ralph West USA	Ralph West USA

*Note: There will be a short break in the session 3:30-4:00 pm on Thursday and Saturday.*

## PREACHERS



KARL HENLIN

**KARL HENLIN** has been Pastor of the Gregory Park Baptist Church in Jamaica since 1987. Under his leadership, a new mission (congregation) was planted in a growing urban community outside Kingston and has grown into a vibrant congregation. A former President of the Jamaica Baptist Union and Vice President of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship, he presently leads the ministry of Caribbean Christian Publications Limited. Karl has been a speaker on Biblical and Theological issues in Jamaica, the wider Caribbean, and other parts of the world and served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the United Theological College of the West Indies. He has a

passion to see the Church make Jesus central to her life and mission, whatever the cultural contexts, and has produced and presents a weekly devotional podcast called “Nightcap” which is heard in many parts of the world by more than 2,000 people each week.



# PREACHING SYMPOSIUM

Plaza Auditorium



JASON ELSMORE

**JASON ELSMORE** has served in local church ministry for 29 years in New South Wales and Queensland, Australia. He has pastored at Gateway Baptist Church, a thriving multi-campus church in Brisbane, for 20 years and has been the Director of the Queensland Baptist Movement since 2021, where he feels very privileged to serve alongside so many godly leaders across the state. As a gifted communicator and visionary leader, Jason is determined to equip the local church to share the Gospel and transform communities with the love and power of Jesus. Jason is the author of *Jesus the Bloke* and speaks throughout Australia,

encouraging men to introduce their mates to Jesus.



TANIKKA SHEPPARD

**TANIKKA SHEPPARD** is a visionary leader and a passionate leadership development specialist and coach who is committed to equipping faith-based leaders, churches, and organizations around the world to live, lead, and inspire others with excellence. She is the president and founder of Sheppard Leadership Solutions where she designs leadership development programs that sharpen vision, strengthen impact, and empower next-generation leaders. TaNikka currently serves as the General Secretary of the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF). She also serves as the Regional Executive Minister

of the Cleveland Baptist Association (CBA) in Cleveland, Ohio, an association that has strengthened local churches since 1832. Her past international leadership roles include President of Baptist Women of North America (BWNA), vice president of the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department (2017–2022), and co-chair of the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Transformational Leadership (2020–2025). TaNikka earned a Doctor of Ministry in Global Leadership from Virginia Union University with research focused on leadership development, liberation theologies, and contemporary missiologies.



RONALD BOBO

**RONALD BOBO SR** is the chair of the 23rd Baptist World Congress Program Planning Committee and serves as Senior Pastor of the First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church of Flint, Michigan, USA. He has also served in Pastoral Ministry at the West Side Missionary Baptist Church in Saint Louis, Missouri. Ron is a past Vice President of the Baptist World Alliance and the Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc. Since 2004, he has served as the Founder and Executive Director of Sharing Hope International

# PREACHING SYMPOSIUM

Plaza Auditorium

Ministries, a 501c3 global outreach ministry offering preaching, teaching, medical care, humanitarian aid, and leadership development to 32 nations, reaching every inhabited continent around the world.



LYNN GREEN

**LYNN GREEN** is passionate about inspiring in others a longing for God, a longing for mission, and a longing for relationships. She has a heart for the flourishing of women and younger leaders, in particular, and has served as General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain for over 10 years. Since 1994, she has served in local, regional, and national roles. Lynn connects regularly with churches and leaders locally and globally and is so encouraged by all the ways she is seeing God at work throughout the Baptist movement. Lynn is a seasoned leader and a wise, gracious, and inspiring speaker who loves Scripture and seeks to

bring prophetic insight when she shares.



PAUL MSIZA

**PAUL MSIZA** is a native of South Africa. Born in Mamelodi, one of the townships of the capital city of Pretoria, he grew up during the difficult times of the Apartheid. He was called to ministry while working as a teacher. He served in several rural churches as a bivocational pastor. In 2001, he planted the Peniel Salem Baptist Church where he is currently serving as senior pastor. He has served as President of the All Africa Baptist Fellowship (2006-2011), BWA Vice President (2010-2015), and President of the Baptist World Alliance (2015-2020). Paul continues to serve both his local church as senior pastor, his

Convention in South Africa, and the BWA. In 2016, he was awarded an honorary doctoral degree by the Andhra Pradesh Theological University. In 2024, he completed his PhD program at the University of North-West in South Africa.



KAREN WILSON

**KAREN WILSON** is the 2020-2025 President of Baptist World Alliance Women and an ordained Baptist minister. She is also the Founding Executive Director of the Global Women Leaders Network which resources cohorts of women leaders across almost 40 countries. Karen has a strong desire to champion and empower men and women in leadership together. She has spent many years working across many nations and has a strong understanding of cross-cultural ministry. Karen has written and published a book entitled *The Inside Story* that

explores who we are and how to lead and live life truly authentically.

# PREACHING SYMPOSIUM

*Plaza Auditorium*



BRUCE WEBB

**BRUCE WEBB** has served as Senior Pastor at a number of churches in Texas (USA) and has been at First Baptist Church of The Woodlands since 2007. Upon becoming a follower of Jesus when he was 15, he fell in love with the people who are the Church of Jesus Christ. At 19, after his freshman year in college, he took his first position as a summer youth minister. From that time forward, he understood if given the opportunity, he would spend the rest of his life serving the Lord and doing his best to connect others with the hope and meaning knowing Jesus offers.

Did you know the BWA celebrated our  
**100th Anniversary**  
at the Baptist World Congress that took place in  
Birmingham, England, in 2005?

**Baptist Insurance Services (BIS) has been providing comprehensive and tailored covers for our Baptist Family since 1984. We arrange protection cover for over 1,300 constituents Australia-wide. These includes churches, schools, care facilities and other organisations affiliated with their State Union offices.**

Utilising the services of International Insurance Brokers and Insurance Companies, BIS organises a comprehensive range of protections including:

- Baptist Mutual Fund (Property and General Liability)
- Professional Indemnity
- Director and Officers Liability
- Employment Practices
- Cyber Protection
- Personal Accident
- Motor Vehicle

The BIS team understands the needs of churches and the organisations we cover. We work closely with each constituent and are committed to provide high level service.

As we look to the future, we do so with confidence that our work is not just about financial stewardship but also about serving our community with integrity and faith. In providing stability and protection, we are enabling ministries to flourish and focus on their calling, without the burden of uncertainty.



[www.baptistinsurance.com.au](http://www.baptistinsurance.com.au)

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, July 10, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Please note all breakouts will be offered in English unless otherwise specified.

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
FREE FROM PERSECUTION	Samson Adedokun Samaresh Nayak Bruce Webb	Nigeria India USA	Mezzanine M4
ABIDING IN CHRIST	Israel Akanji Bijoy Sangma Lina Toth	Nigeria India Scotland/Lithuania	Plaza P1
FIRST NATIONS CHURCH	Matt & Rachel Renata Keith Truscott	New Zealand Australia	Plaza P2
LIVING THE GOOD NEWS - French -	Moise Dieme Marthe Ekollo	Senegal Cameroon	Plaza P3
GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	Allan Demond Grant Harris Enoch Thompson	Australia New Zealand Ghana	Plaza P5
MULTI-ETHNIC CHURCH	Reti Ah-Voa Marbuen Diaz Cesar Sotomayor	New Zealand Australia Austra/Mexico	Plaza P6
EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW: 1700 YEARS OF THE NICENE CREED	Enoh Seba Lee Spitzer David Starling	Croatia USA Australia	Plaza P7
GOD'S WORD FOR EVERY LANGUAGE	Kyle Henderson Valérie Duval-Pujol	USA France	Plaza P8
CULTIVATING GLOBAL LEADERS AND THEOLOGICAL PREPARATION	Bruce Fawcett Tim MacBride Rachael Tan	Canada Australia Taiwan	Plaza P9
FLOURISHING FREEDOM IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE	Ernest Adu-Gyamfi Tim Costello Bela Szilagy	Ghana Australia Hungary	Plaza P10

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, July 10, 2:00-3:30 pm

## DESCRIPTION

Religious freedom for all people of all faiths, a commitment that has shaped 400 years of Baptist life, remains under threat. Learn the challenges today and positive steps each of us can take to stand together with the persecuted.

Jesus calls us to abide in his love as we encounter again the power of deep, daily communion with Christ. Be encouraged by global testimonies that reveal the joy of continual renewal in Jesus.

First nations people live out the beauty of God's image in every nation, tribe, people, and language often amid historic injustices. Be inspired and challenged by indigenous leaders sharing their experiences and wisdom in the journey towards justice, healing, faithful discipleship, and renewed contextual mission.

As Baptists we remain passionately committed to "Living the Good News" as Jesus announced in Luke 4. Join the seminar to share together practical ways to help Live the Good News as individuals, churches, and in society. The seminar will be entirely in French.

Many conventions, unions, and churches are struggling with questions of governance and identity and many smaller churches do not have the administrative structure they need. Gain insight into how to strengthen your ministry through more effective governance and administration.

We will celebrate eternity in Christ with people from all languages, cultures, and countries. Yet too many churches are monocultural. Gain insight into how to embrace and live as a multi-ethnic church.

Written in 325, this year marks the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. Join with many around the world and reflect on this historic milestone and how the Nicene Creed may continue to shape and guide the Baptist movement today.

There are still over 1,000 languages that do not yet have any portion of the Bible in their heart language. You and your church can make a difference. Explore innovative ways to mobilize your church to pray intentionally, build friendships, and help ensure that every language in the world has at least a portion of the Bible translated in their language by 2033.

Two of the pressing challenges facing the church: how do we cultivate leaders prepared to lead and love in a globalized world and how do we enhance theological preparation in changing financial and regulatory environments? Explore how these challenges might be addressed.

Christ calls us to every sector of society such as business, media, education, and government. Learn how to build relationships and Christ-centered witness throughout the whole of society from those who have seen incredible change locally, nationally, and internationally.

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, July 10, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
WOMEN CHANGING THE FACE OF MISSIONS	Karlene Edwards-Warrick Micheline Makkar Regina Sudheer	Trinidad and Tobago Syria India	Boulevard Room
WHEN THE MONEY IS RUNNING OUT – Aid Track –	Elias Apetogbo Jayden Battey Brad Boberg Samuel Reeves	Togo Australia USA Liberia	Boulevard 1
NEW WAYS OF DOING THE SAME OLD THING – Aid Track –	Amy Badger Fabricio Freitas Alex Ho Milton Munshi Ant Sell	Ghana Brazil Australia Bangladesh Australia	Boulevard 2
TECHNOLOGY, FAITH, AND HUMAN RIGHTS	Elijah Brown Katie Frugé Wissam al-Saliby	USA USA Lebanon	Boulevard B3
LIVING WITH CONVICTION AND FRIENDSHIP IN A MULTIFAITH WORLD	Charlemagne Ndittemeh Kang-San Tan Chakravarthy Zadda	Cameroon UK/Malaysia USA	Boulevard Auditorium

## Take your calling where it's needed most.

EXPLORE OUR GRADUATE CHAPLAINCY PROGRAMS

- ▶ MA, MDIV & CERTIFICATES
- ▶ FLEXIBLE LEARNING  
*In-person classes or synchronous online*



[pbactc.org](https://pbactc.org)





# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, July 10, 2:00-3:30 pm

## DESCRIPTION

Women play a vital role in local churches and global missions. Discover inspiring stories, leadership insights, and practical strategies to empower women in transformational mission that advances the Gospel with passion and purpose.

With the changes in international humanitarian aid funding and decreased income in our congregations, the need to find non-traditional means to support social service ministries, aid, and community development projects is critical. Learn about developing a vision for financial sustainability. How can donors and church leaders work collaboratively to explore funding alternatives – for example, micro-financing and social impact investment?

Innovation and sound design practices are critical to developing creative approaches to address poverty and serve the most vulnerable. Gain insight into this process and hear from leaders who are engaging in dynamic ministries, making an impact in the church and community.

What does it mean to be in the image of God in an age of technology? As AI and technology expand into everyday life, what are the ethics and practical opportunities churches need to pursue today to be prepared for tomorrow?

Jesus calls us to love our neighbors with conviction and friendship in a multifaith world. Gain insight from leaders who are modeling new ways forward in faithful witness, increasing mutual understanding, building friendships, and diffusing religious based violence.



3C h u n g a r i a n  
baptistaid

Serving together with the global Baptist family in **First Response, Aid, Relief and Development**. Providing **public education, social services** locally, operating **Tabitha House** - Hungary's only children's hospice.



Scan to learn more

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, July 10, 4:00-5:00 pm

Please note all breakouts will be offered in English unless otherwise specified.

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
PEACE AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN WAR AND PERSECUTION	Gamal Makkar Bashaka Faustin	Syria Rwanda	Plaza P2
COMPELLING COMMUNICATIONS	Merritt Johnston Kadi Tingas	USA Estonia	Plaza P3
NO MORE VIOLENCE – Aid Track –	David Balyeat	USA	Plaza P7
ACTS 2 MOVEMENT	Kyle Henderson	USA	Plaza P8
VIRTUAL CHURCH	Jan Sæthre Karleigh Vaschina	Norway Australia	Plaza P9
CHURCHES THAT SAFEGUARD ALL PEOPLE	Jessica Barry Ray Malone	Australia USA	Boulevard 2
TOGETHER IN FAITH TESTIMONIES	<i>Facilitator:</i> Samaresh Nayak	India	Plaza P1
A CALL TO WISDOM	Anthony Dela Fuente Joseph Fornah Todd Still	Philippines Sierra Leone USA	Plaza P4

Did you know the BWA has grown more than **30%**  
over the last decade?

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, July 10, 4:00-5:00 pm

## DESCRIPTION

War, persecution, and extreme hunger are the reality for 25% of all BWA Baptists. Be inspired by the personal testimonies of leaders serving on the faith frontline and how you can pray and stand together with them.

Websites, social media platforms, newsletters, emails, video production, and so much more are all essential for modern communication. Discover insights and practical tools to inspire, increase presence and engagement, and share compelling communication.

Called to live as ambassadors of peace, this creative approach equips churches to partner with a local school to help children. This proven strategy has blessed tens of thousands of children and will bless your church and community.

The BWA is calling for unprecedented collaborative global mission. Explore Holy Spirit-led goals – Bible translation for all, 450 million testimonies, care for 1 billion people, and advocacy for religious freedom and justice. Gain essential training and a mobilization toolkit for worldwide holistic Gospel witness.

Virtual church creates unprecedented opportunities to reach more people and foster innovative discipleship. Discover key strategies that equip you to enhance engagement in this rapidly expanding yet challenging ministry in an emerging digital age.

Churches should protect vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and victims of abuse. Learn how to minister to people with disabilities and create policies and practices that safeguard all people within the church and the community.

Join this unique experience. In small groups, each person will have five minutes to share: (1) when they gave their life to Jesus and (2) what Jesus is teaching them today. This will be a powerful way to hear personal faith stories from around the world.

In a world of hyper-information, we are called to the biblical promise to pursue wisdom. Reflect on how to cultivate a character of wisdom and to live within our families, churches, and society as those who live in humility, grace, and wisdom.

Did you know that last year over **8,000** people recovering from devastating floods around the world received food, essential non-food items, and shelter because of your support of the BWA Disaster Relief Fund?

# AFFINITY GROUPS

Thursday, July 10, 4:00-5:00 pm

Affinity Groups are designed for participants from around the world to come together for a meaningful time of prayer, networking, support, and visioning. Strengthen ministry partnerships, share your unique insights, and connect through informal fellowship with leaders serving in similar positions.

TITLE	FACILITATOR	COUNTRY	ROOM
NXTGEN (18-35)	Adam Southwood	Australia	Mezzanine M4
LEADERS OF MISSION ORGANIZATIONS AND MINISTRIES	Emmett Dunn	USA / Liberia	Plaza P5
THEOLOGICAL TRAINERS	Oti Bunaciu	Romania	Plaza P6
MISSION PERSONNEL	Carson Foushee	USA	Plaza P10
STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT OF MEN	Samson Fatokun	Nigeria	Boulevard Room
WOMEN IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP – <i>Aid Track</i>	Melissa Lipsett	Australia	Boulevard 1
WOMEN IN MINISTRY	Beth Jackson	Australia	Boulevard Auditorium



## Enabling Christian ministry to thrive



Savings & Investments



Loans



Prepaid Cards



Church Giving



[www.bfs.org.au](http://www.bfs.org.au)



1300 650 542

The accounts and investments in this advertisement are debentures products and not deposit products. Baptist Financial Services (BFS) ABN 56 002 861 789 AFSL 311062 is a Registered Charity and issuer of the debentures products. BFS is not prudentially supervised by APRA. Therefore, an investor in our products will not receive the benefit of the financial claims scheme or the depositor protection provisions in the Banking Act 1959. Investments in our products are intended to be a means for investors to support the charitable purposes of BFS. We are required by law to notify investors that our products are intended only to attract investors whose primary purpose is to support our charitable purposes, are not comparable to investments with banks, finance companies or fund managers, and investors may be unable to get some or all of their money back when they expect or at all. Persons should consider whether or not the debentures are appropriate for them.



QUEENSLAND BAPTISTS

**SERVING JESUS  
TOGETHER**



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Friday, July 11, 2:00-3:30 pm

Please note all breakouts will be offered in English unless otherwise specified.

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
LISTENING: REFLECTIONS ON HISTORIC AUSTRALIA BAPTIST ENGAGEMENT WITH FIRST NATIONS	Andy Mitchell Keith Truscott Graeme Chatfield	Australia Australia Australia	Plaza P2
MOBILIZING FOR MISSION FROM EVERYONE TO EVERYWHERE	Casely Essamuah Allen Yeh	USA USA	Plaza P3
LEARNING FROM CHURCHES FACING WAR, VIOLENCE & TERROR – Aid Track –	Igor Bandura Leor Sarkar	Ukraine Bangladesh	Plaza P4
RESTORATIVE RACIAL JUSTICE	Gale Richards Kasey Jones David Goatley	UK USA USA	Plaza P5
CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE EAST TODAY	Nabil Costa Nabeeh Abbasi Rani Saba	Lebanon Jordan Israel	Plaza P6
LIVING THE GOOD NEWS – Portuguese –	Fabício Freitas Diogo Carvalho Wander Gomes	Brazil Brazil Brazil	Plaza P7
ACTS 2 MOVEMENT	Kyle Henderson	USA	Plaza P8
LIVING THE GOOD NEWS – Spanish –	Noemí Janson Lidak Parrish Jacome	Colombia Ecuador	Plaza P9
LIVING THE GOOD NEWS – Mandarin –	Rachael Tan John Ong Chia-Hua Chen	Taiwan Malaysia Taiwan	Plaza P10
FAITH AND FAKE NEWS	Brian Kaylor AK Lama Starlette Thomas	USA India USA	Plaza P11



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Friday, July 11, 2:00-3:30 pm

## DESCRIPTION

Recognizing history is present and continues to influence, learn from Australian Baptist engagement with First Nations. Gain insight into the wider context of Australia today, lessons related to walking with indigenous peoples today, and how to embrace approaches centered around listening.

Three billion people remain unreached with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Learn how organizations are grappling with the challenge and seeking to build practical, mutual mission partnerships that help churches move beyond older models to mobilize everyone to everywhere.

War and civil wars impact many churches around the world. Pray together and hear from leaders serving in these realities, the lessons they have to share, and practical ways to help those facing war and social violence.

Explore how Jesus redeems us from the sinful chains of racial prejudice for the freedom of co-dignity in the image of God. With rising racism and racial injustice, hear from those making a difference and join them in pursuing restorative racial justice.

Our biblical faith is deeply woven into the landscape and culture of a Middle East that is rapidly changing. Hear from those ministering across this region, gain their perspective, and learn how God is moving across this crucial region today.

As Baptists we remain passionately committed to “Living the Good News” as Jesus announced in Luke 4. Join the seminar to share together practical ways to help Live the Good News as individuals, churches, and in society. The session will be entirely in Portuguese.

The BWA is calling for unprecedented collaborative global mission. Explore Holy Spirit-led goals – Bible translation for all, 450 million testimonies, care for 1 billion people, and advocacy for religious freedom and justice. Gain essential training and a mobilization toolkit for worldwide holistic Gospel witness.

As Baptists we remain passionately committed to “Living the Good News” as Jesus announced in Luke 4. Join the seminar for multiple presentations that explore practical ways to help you Live the Good News as individuals, churches, and in society. The session will be entirely in Spanish.

As Baptists we remain passionately committed to “Living the Good News” as Jesus announced in Luke 4. Join the seminar to share together practical ways to help Live the Good News as individuals, churches, and in society. The session will be entirely in Mandarin.

Conspiracies and fake news are traveling faster and impacting more people than ever before. Hear from those who are pursuing discipleship that is well considered and that courageously helps people live with truth.

## Breakout Sessions Continued...

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS	Koffi Soké Kpomgbe Kimberly Smith Joy-Ann Wood	Togo Australia Barbados	Boulevard Room
FAITH, JUSTICE, AND CREATION CARE – Aid Track –	Andria Grosvenor Julia Jardine	Barbados Australia	Boulevard 1
LOCALIZATION AND THE CHURCH IN HUMANITARIAN AID – Aid Track –	Ant Sell Milton Munshi Mamo Ketsela Delelo Wissam Nasrallah	Australia Bangladesh Ethiopia Lebanon	Boulevard 2
LEADING TODAY Q&A	Graham Brown Jan Sæthre Daniel Edwards Jeff Smith	Australia Norway USA USA	Boulevard 3
BIBLE-BASED DISCIPLESHIP	Tim Piesse Dale Stephenson Edi Stephenson	Australia Australia Australia	Plaza 1
WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP	Jane Day Cindy Henderson Karen Wilson	UK USA Australia	Boulevard Auditorium



[www.cbf.net](http://www.cbf.net)

**INVITING TO COMMUNITY  
EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY  
TRANSFORMING GOD'S WORLD**

Led by the love of Christ, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship invites churches and individuals to partner in transforming God's world, working together as a global community to spread good news, justice and hope through impactful ministries, missions and resources.

**cbf** Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

## DESCRIPTION

Each generation is to disciple and empower the next. Yet this process is often frustrating. Gain understanding about the emerging generation and how to empower a next generation of leaders in your church, ministry, and convention or union as we seek to release tomorrow's leaders today.

Environmental degradation often intersects with and influences ongoing poverty, marginalization, and migration. Learn how these realities influence and impact one another, putting people further at risk of vulnerability. How can the Church be part of the solution?

True localization shakes up the usual methods of providing aid to communities. How can the global and local church, and invested organizations work together using new approaches that allow the local groups to take charge of relief and development efforts? This approach should honor the unique identity of the churches and communities, recognize their existing strengths, and ensure accountability.

High impact leadership requires ongoing cultivation of character rooted in Christ and development of multiple skills. Engage with leaders from multiple backgrounds who are making a significant difference in an interactive session formatted around open Q&A.

The Bible is the best way for people to share their faith and nurture discipleship. Learn from multiplying discipleship movements how every member of your church can use their Bible in their home setting to become intentional about outreach and discipleship.

We celebrate the multiple gifts women bring to the service of Jesus Christ. Gain new insights on how to help affirm the God-given call of women for service and to release a new generation of women in all aspects of leadership.

**BAPTIST CARE  
AUSTRALIA**

# Welcomes you to Brisbane for the 2025 Baptist World Congress!



**Baptist Care Australia is the national network of Baptist-affiliated social service agencies in Australia. We:**

- Help our members connect and collaborate as they work to serve the most vulnerable members of our society.
- Advocate nationally on social justice issues such as homelessness, aged care and domestic violence.
- Represent our members on the Australian Baptist Ministries National Council.

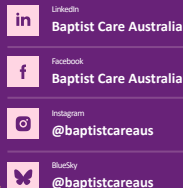
From aged care to counselling, social housing to caring for children and young people, our members are living out the good news by helping people during hard times all across Australia.



Find out more at:

[www.baptistcareaustralia.org.au](http://www.baptistcareaustralia.org.au)

Follow us on:



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

*Saturday, July 12, 2:00 - 3:30 pm*

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE – Aid Track –	Cesar Sotomayor Emil Rahimov Pau Khan Lian	Austria/Mexico Australia USA/Myanmar	Mezzanine M4
MOBILIZING FOR MISSION WITH ALPHA	Jason Elsmore Ben Higgins Angel Hutchinson	Australia Australia UK	Plaza P1
LIVING FAITH AND BUSINESS	Beverley Stookey Stephen Field Lina Sawan	USA Australia Lebanon	Plaza P2
CELEBRATING BAPTIST FAITH AND HERITAGE	Melody Maxwell Brian Tolbert Graeme Chatfield	Canada/USA UK Australia	Plaza P3
REACHING CITIES	John Kok Jim Baucom Joao Barreto Soares	Malaysia USA Brazil	Plaza P5
EVERY BAPTIST A MISSIONARY	Fernando Brandão Bernard Obuya Rachel Murray	Brazil Kenya New Zealand	Plaza P6
A GLOBAL PORTRAIT OF FAITH	Elias Apetogbo John Ong Darrell Jackson	Togo Malaysia Australia	Plaza P7
ENDING MODERN DAY SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING	Lauran Bethell Ants Watt Laise Sinda Ribeiro	USA New Zealand Brazil/Thailand	Plaza P8
MULTIPLYING & DEVELOPING DISCIPLES	Isabella Senior Diego Carvalho Steve Dixon	Brazil/UK Brazil Australia	Plaza P9
SIGNS OF SPRING: NEW GROWTH IN CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS	Otniel Bunaciu Tomás Mackey Valérie Duval-Pujol	Romania Argentina France	Plaza P10

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Saturday, July 12, 2:00-3:30 pm

## DESCRIPTION

There are more people living as migrants and displaced refugees today than ever before in the history of the world. Hear meaningful ways to pray, befriend, support, advocate, and share the hope of Christ with people on the move.

Join a panel discussion with Alpha representatives, pastors, and Baptist leaders exploring how Alpha is globally positioned to empower churches to share faith in Jesus, reach younger generations, and revitalize evangelism, featuring global perspectives, including new content such as the Alpha Youth Series (AYS), Chinese Alpha Film Series, and other languages available.

The Bible calls us to live as whole life disciples where worship influences work. But what does it mean to be a person of faith in business and society and how can our workplaces be opportunities for God's mission?

What does it mean to be a Baptist today? How can we draw upon leaders and movements within our shared history and Anabaptist connection to address critical issues facing both Baptists and the world today?

Two-thirds of all people will live in a city by 2033. Building upon the Pauline model that focuses on reaching key cities, strengthen your engagement with intentionally identifying and ministering to urban cities and urban centers around the world.

For 400 years, Baptists have believed every Baptist is a missionary. Gain insight into how a theology of mission combined with practices of mission can equip you as individuals and as a church to live the Gospel today.

Christianity is rapidly expanding across Africa, Asia, and Latin America, with more BWA Baptists in Africa today than any other continent. Deepen your perspective on the trends, mission opportunities, and the emerging global portrait of the Baptist faith.

Forty-five million people remain trapped in modern slavery, forced labor, and forced marriage. Hear from leaders working to help people escape modern-day slavery and how you can join in this pressing call to action.

The Bible is the best way for people to share their faith and nurture discipleship. Learn how your church can become intentional about outreach and discipleship amongst its members.

Jesus prayed for unity among all believers but many struggle to maintain positive relationships with people of other Christian traditions. Using practical examples and contemporary conversations within the BWA and Baptist life, hear how to strengthen the dynamic of Christian relationships today.

## Breakout Sessions Continued...

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
LIVING THE GOOD NEWS – Spanish –	Ruben Ortiz Jocksan Galeano Josue Fonseca	USA Nicaragua Chile	Plaza 11
RESTORING HOPE AND RENEWING MENTAL WELLBEING	Kay Warren	USA	Boulevard Room
A HOLISTIC RESPONSE: THE POWER OF AID, DEVELOPMENT AND ADVOCACY – Aid Track –	Matt Renata Trent Martin Sav Cameron Amanda Mukwashi	New Zealand USA Australia UK/Lesotho	Boulevard 1
AID ON MISSION – Aid Track –	Melissa Lipsett Bela Szilagyi Igor Bandura Doni Wijaya Leor Sarkar	Australia Hungary Ukraine Indonesia Bangladesh	Boulevard 2
CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY	Sam Hearn Ali Boulton Lisa Wooley Gary Grut	Australia UK New Zealand New Zealand	Boulevard Auditorium
ENDING THE SIN OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	Julie Mariama Sesay Elissa Macpherson Patricia Ihlenfeldt	Sierra Leone Australia South Africa	Boulevard 3

- Christian Primary Schools
- Life Groups (Bible Study)
- Training Conferences
- Church Development
- Harvesters Worship Group
- Relief Work



UK Registered Charity  
No: 1176398

Pray  
Give  
Serve

**Life For Bangladesh**

Living the Good News of Jesus in Bangladesh

[www.life4bangladesh.org/contact-us](http://www.life4bangladesh.org/contact-us) [sarkarpeter@yahoo.com](mailto:sarkarpeter@yahoo.com) +44 (0)7803254347



## DESCRIPTION

As Baptists we remain passionately committed to “Living the Good News” as Jesus announced in Luke 4. Join the seminar for multiple presentations that explore practical ways to help you Live the Good News as individuals, churches, and in society. The seminar will be entirely in Spanish.

There is a growing prevalence of isolation, depression, and stressed mental health impacting ministers, church members, and the community at large. Hear the personal testimony of a leading expert to gain insights, encouragement, and recommended strategies to engage this silent epidemic.

Very often a disaster response requires more than just dollars. We will explore the complexity of recent disasters and how donors, churches and advocacy organizations work together to engage governments and institutions to encourage long-lasting changes and processes to mitigate future disasters and encourage sustainability.

Relief and development as a missional practice! What is a theology of disaster preparedness? How can Conventions and churches start this journey to developing relief and development ministries that respond effectively to crises and engage in strategic development initiatives? With increasing natural disasters and man-made conflicts, the church must be prepared.

Traditional styles of church do not always connect with our communities. Explore new ways of doing church.

One third of women worldwide have experienced domestic violence. Address the silence in the church and in many communities and gain practical tools to pursue families, churches, and communities that are healthy and free of all gender-based violence.



Baptist  
Mission  
Australia



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Saturday, July 12, 4:00-5:00 pm

TITLE	PRESENTERS	COUNTRY	ROOM
BWA EVANGELISM AWARDEE INTERVIEW	Facilitator: Warren Stewart	USA	Plaza P1
BWA HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDEE INTERVIEW	Facilitator: Paul Baxley	USA	Plaza P2
HOW TO INCREASE YOUR CHURCH OFFERING	Jan Saæthre Edwin Lam Jerry Carlisle	Norway Singapore USA	Plaza P4
Q&A WITH BWA CHAIR, VICE CHAIR, AND GENERAL SECRETARY	Elijah Brown <i>*Chair and Vice Chair to be announced July 9</i>	USA	Plaza P6
BECOMING A CHURCH THAT CARES FOR CREATION – Aid Track –	Julia Jardine Ben Howes	Australia Australia	Plaza P8
CHURCH WORSHIP AND ARTS	Vee Tetseo Tina Boyles Bailey Lina Toth	Japan/India Australia/USA Scotland/Lithuania	Plaza P9
PRAYER WALKING	Jesse McCain Kyle Henderson	USA USA	Plaza P10
ETHICAL FASHION	Sienna Corkill Jeff Ward	Australia New Zealand	Boulevard 1
TOGETHER IN FAITH TESTIMONIES	Chris Liebrum	USA	Plaza P3

Did you know that women in more than **100** countries and territories unite in strategic prayer and giving for the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer each year?

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

*Saturday, July 12, 4:00-5:00 pm*

## DESCRIPTION

After a global nominations process, the BWA is honored to recognize one church at each Congress for their innovative approach to evangelism that is biblically-based, Christ-centered, and culturally-sensitive. Celebrate the recipient, hear from an outstanding evangelism outreach, and engage through Q&A.

After a global nominations process, the BWA is honored to recognize one individual at each Congress for their lifetime of engagement in support of religious freedom, human rights, and justice. Celebrate the recipient, hear from an outstanding leader in justice, and engage through Q&A.

Many people of faith struggle to respond to God's call to live with generosity. Consider creative ways to increase financial resources for your church, renew teachings on financial stewardship, and encourage more sustained church offerings.

Engage with three key BWA leaders helping provide governance and daily leadership for a family that is today located in 134 countries. Learn more about current strategies and future directions in an interactive session formatted around Q&A.

Explore with others how churches can care for their environment as a community and as individuals.

Art, music, poetry, dance, videography, and other creative engagement help us gain fresh insight into the Lord and the beauty of God's creation. Learn how others are engaging their congregations as whole people in worship and discipleship.

What might happen if we prayed for every person and every home around the world? This is possible if every member of every church begins to intentionally prayer walk their neighborhood and learns to pray on site with insight.

At the intersection of fashion, faith, justice, and sustainability, explore how Christians can support fair trade, sustainable practices, and worker dignity. Learn how ethical choices reflect faith values, promote justice, and empower communities while transforming the global marketplace.

Join this unique experience. In small groups, each person will have five minutes to share: (1) when they gave their life to Jesus and (2) what Jesus is teaching them today. This will be a powerful way to hear personal faith stories from around the world.

Did you know there are more than **175,000**  
BWA Baptist churches around the world?

# AFFINITY GROUPS

Saturday, July 12, 4:00-5:00 pm

Affinity Groups are designed for participants from around the world to come together for a meaningful time of prayer, networking, support, and visioning. Strengthen ministry partnerships, share your unique insights, and connect through informal fellowship with leaders serving in similar positions.

TITLE	FACILITATOR	COUNTRY	ROOM
NXTGEN (18-35)	Adam Southwood	Australia	Mezzanine M4
DENOMINATIONAL LEADERS	Stewart Pieper	Australia	Plaza P7
PASTORS	Ross Chandler	USA	Boulevard Room
CHURCH LEADERS	Kenneth Curry	USA	Boulevard Auditorium
AID AND DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS* – Aid Track –	Dean Miller	USA	Boulevard 2

\* This session will include a celebration for individuals who successfully completed the Aid & Development Track.

BUSINESS  
 LEADERSHIP  
 AND MANAGEMENT  
 EARLY CHILDHOOD  
 EDUCATION AND CARE  
 INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT  
 AGEING SUPPORT  
 COMMUNITY SERVICES  
 COUNSELLING  
 TRAINEESHIPS  
 SHORT COURSES

**Bedford**

**PATHWAYS TO  
A MEANINGFUL  
FUTURE.**

At Bedford, we create learning and training pathways that lead to real opportunities. Through education, skill-building, and community engagement, we empower individuals seeking opportunity to live with purpose and independence

**BECOME**

SYD/1943

**BEDFORD.EDU.AU**

# BAPTIST STANDARD

Connecting God's story and God's people  
to grow God's kingdom

## News • Opinion • Resources



## Stay Connected



baptiststandard.com



info@baptiststandard.com



@BaptistStandard



@BaptistStandard





# CONGRESS HUMANITARIAN AID AND DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

This special track is a new Congress initiative that provides a unique opportunity for church and nonprofit leaders interested in humanitarian aid and development and social service ministry to engage together on current issues in this critical sector. In light of the recent changes in foreign aid and the recommitment to localization, the Church can be strategically positioned to lead transformation and channel resources toward the flourishing of its communities.

**Aid Symposium:** Wednesday, July 9

**Special Aid Luncheon:** Friday, July 11 (*Pre-booked tickets only*)

**Aid Track:** July 9-July 12

---

## AID SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday, July 9, 1:30-3:30 pm

*(Tickets obtainable from registration while available)*

Plaza P5

*Hosted by the Baptist Forum for Aid and Development*

*Focus: "Is There Good News for the Poor?"*



TIM COSTELLO

An afternoon featuring Tim Costello – Baptist minister, global humanitarian aid practitioner, thought leader, and former CEO of World Vision Australia. Global church and development leaders will respond to Dr. Costello, followed by Q&A from the audience.

*Amid significant global disruptions in the aid and development and nonprofit sector, how can the Church's presence in the community be that of a transforming agent, exemplifying the work of the Incarnational Christ? In what ways can the Baptist movement respond to its missional call to serve the poor – not with charity but through transformation?*



# CONGRESS HUMANITARIAN AID AND DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

## BWAid LUNCHEON

Friday, July 11, 12:15 pm (*Pre-registration Ticket Required*)

Mezzanine M4

Topic: "Beyond Charity: Pursuing Freedom and Justice for the Poor"



AMANDA MUKWASHI

We are privileged to welcome Amanda Khozi Mukwashi as our keynote speaker. Amanda is the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Lesotho and the former Chief Executive Officer of Christian Aid. She has led development and humanitarian interventions in over 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Middle East, and the Caribbean.

*De-Colonization, Dis-Ruption, and Dis-Placement demand a faithful response from the Church. How can the most vulnerable, the Church, and donors collaborate to reimagine aid and development—and to reshape social service ministries—in ways that liberate the poor and take seriously the dignity of the oppressed.*

## HUMANITARIAN AID TRACK

Wednesday, July 9, through Saturday, July 12

Earn a Certificate in Contemporary Issues in Humanitarian Action and a Continuing Education Credit!

*Awarded by Truett Theological Seminary @ Baylor University  
and the Baptist World Alliance*

Explore thought-provoking topics in dynamic Breakout Sessions, be inspired by the Aid Symposium and BWAid Luncheon keynote speakers, gain insight and encouragement from "Freedom Pursuers" Plenaries, and network with leaders in the field within Affinity Sessions.

*Note: Participants wishing to earn a certificate in Contemporary Issues in Humanitarian action must be pre-registered. Certificates will be presented to those who have fulfilled the requirements on Saturday, July 12, at 4 pm during the Aid Professionals Affinity Group.*

# CONGRESS HUMANITARIAN AID AND DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

## **BREAKOUT SESSIONS include...**

- Aid on Mission
- A Holistic Response: Aid, Development, and Advocacy
- Churches Facing War, Violence, and Terror
- Faith, Justice, and Creation Care
- Localization and the Church in Humanitarian Aid
- New Ways of Doing the Same Old Thing
- No More Violence
- When the Money is Running Out

*Breakout Sessions that indicate "Aid Track" are open to everyone.*

## **AFFINITY GROUPS**

Women in Organizational Leadership

Aid and Development Professionals



**SHERIDAN**  
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION



WA's top Higher Education Institution for Teaching Quality, and for three consecutive years, Western Australia's leading higher education institution for student support and services.\*\*

UNDERGRADUATE & POSTGRADUATE COURSES FOR  
LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**INTAKE**  
**SEMESTER 2, 2025**  
**SEMESTER 1, 2026**

**BACHELOR  
OF BUSINESS**  
*ACCOUNTING*  
MAJOR

**BACHELOR  
OF BUSINESS**  
*MANAGEMENT*  
MAJOR

Accounting Major Accredited by:



Think Ahead



SCAN HERE

\*\*Download the full QILT Student Experience Survey 2023 Report at [www.qilt.edu.au](http://www.qilt.edu.au)

# PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

## Prayer Room

Luke 4:18-19

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...”*

With these words, Jesus declared his mission: to bring good news to the poor, to set the oppressed free, to heal the broken, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.

*This is the heartbeat of the Congress Prayer Room.*

Set apart from the noise and movement of Congress, the Prayer Room is a sacred space for encounter. A place to draw near, to listen, to rest, and to respond. A place to pray with the Lord and with others (there will be a trained prayer team available to pray with you during all breaks). Whether you are seeking stillness, healing, vision, or simply a quiet moment with your Father, you are welcome here. In fact, we invite you in.

Open from 12:00 pm–9:00 pm on Monday and 8:00 am–9:00 pm Tuesday to Saturday, the room will offer:

- Guided activities to lead you into deeper reflection
- Prayer activations to stir your spirit and equip you for mission
- Creative and contemplative spaces to help you engage with God in personal and meaningful ways.

**COME EARLY, COME LATE. COME WEARY, COME REJOICING.**

**THERE IS NO PRESSURE, JUST PRESENCE.**

**STAY FIVE MINUTES OR REFRESH FOR HOURS.**

This is holy ground, and we pray as you seek God's face, the unconditional love of our Father continues to secure your footing, your purpose, and your heart as you stand firm and step out in the Lord's love, wherever he may take you.

# SMBA

San Marcos Baptist Academy



*Where Tradition Meets Excellence*



**Now Accepting Applications  
2025-2026 School Year**

For more information  
scan the QR Code



**Financial Aid & Discounts  
Available**

*Ask us about our ministry discount!*

Questions?  
512-753-8000  
[admissions@smabears.org](mailto:admissions@smabears.org)

**5 Day & 7 Day  
Boarding Options**



# PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

## *Prayer Sessions*

The Prayer Sessions at the Baptist World Congress will provide a sacred space intentionally designed to center our global gathering on God. These sessions offer delegates the opportunity to pause, seek God's face, and intercede for the world, the Church, and one another.

Each session is guided by themes that reflect the heart of the Congress, incorporating Scripture, silent reflection, guided intercession, and global voices in prayer. Whether in the stillness of early morning or during times of communal gathering, these moments of prayer will create a rhythm of spiritual renewal that undergirds all Congress activities.

Participants are invited to come with hearts open—ready to listen, to repent, to rejoice, and to unite in the Spirit. As we pray across cultures and languages, we embody our unity in Christ and renew our shared commitment to God's mission in the world.

**All sessions will meet in Room P1.**

### **TUESDAY (7:30-8:30 AM)**     *Facilitated by BWA Women*

Sub-theme: Proclaiming Good News to the Poor - Scripture: Luke 4:18a

This opening session focuses on Christ's call to proclaim good news to the poor—spiritually, materially, and socially. We will intercede for those living in poverty, marginalization, or oppression. Through this time of prayer, we will reflect on our role as Baptists in proclaiming hope and embodying compassion.

### **THURSDAY (7:30-8:30 AM)**     *Facilitated by Baylor University*

Sub-theme: Freedom for the Captives - Scripture: Luke 4:18b

Today we turn our hearts to those bound by injustice, addiction, conflict, and despair. As we pray for spiritual, emotional, and societal liberation, we ask God to make us instruments of his freedom as we seek to serve those in need of his release and freedom.



# PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

## **FRIDAY (7:30-8:30 AM)**      *Facilitated by Baptist Women of the Pacific*

Sub-theme: Recovery of Sight to the Blind - Scripture: Luke 4:18c

In this session, we seek healing—physical, emotional, and spiritual. Guided prayers will focus on restoration and renewal for individuals and communities. We will lift up those who serve in ministries of healing and those in need of fresh vision, trusting God to open eyes and hearts.

## **SATURDAY (7:30-8:30 AM)**      *Facilitated by Australian Baptist Ministries*

Sub-theme: Setting the Oppressed Free - Scripture: Luke 4:18d

In a world burdened by violence, injustice, and spiritual oppression, we call upon the Lord to set the oppressed free. This time of prayer will focus on peace, reconciliation, and the witness of the Church as a liberating presence in the world and communities. Testimonies and intercession will guide us in standing in solidarity with the suffering.

## *Prayer Walks*

## **WEDNESDAY**      *Prayer Walks in and around the Convention Centre*

Sub-theme: Living the Good News on the Move - Scripture: Luke 4:19

**Meet in main foyer at 7:30 am**

This special outdoor experience invites participants to embody prayer in motion. As we walk together, we reflect on our call to proclaim “the year of the Lord’s favor.” With stops for guided prayer along the Convention Centre, this walk affirms that prayer is not confined to sanctuaries. It flows into life and into mission.



**International Ministries is a cross-cultural Christian organization that has partnered with Baptists in God's global mission for over 210 years.** We equip churches and individuals to serve globally, building relationships, empowering local believers, and sharing the hope of Christ in communities around the world.

- ➔ **Global Outreach:** Serve in countries where the need for the gospel is great.
- ➔ **Holistic Ministry:** Share Christ through word and deed, meeting physical and spiritual needs.
- ➔ **Kingdom Impact:** Empower local believers to continue sustainable ministries in their communities.



**Learn more**

Scan the QR code  
or visit:

[internationalministries.org/who-we-are](https://internationalministries.org/who-we-are)

international  
ministries 

# GLOBAL STAGE

## *Plaza Level Concourse between Plaza 3 and Plaza Terrace Room*



A highlight of every Congress is enjoying the ministry of creative artists from different parts of the world. The Global Stage is an opportunity for us to enjoy longer presentations from them.

During this Congress, the Global Stage will also feature interviews with

delegates from across the globe sharing what God is doing in their part of the world. Details of who is presenting Thursday-Saturday can be accessed via the WHOVA virtual platform.



# AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Congress offers an experience for all ages with family-friendly sessions and special programs provided specifically for children and teenagers. Each day from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and again from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, special programs will be offered for those ages 4-11 (kids) and 12-17 (teens) by a team of vetted local volunteers.

## *Congress Kids!*

In 2025, the Baptist World Congress Kids are celebrating JESUS: The GOOD NEWS! We will be joined by local musician Dan Warlow to lead us in worship and by a local Christian ministry organization, Quizworx! Each day our local Baptist church teams will share Bible stories, help create fun crafts, enjoy activities and games, and truly celebrate our diversity together as we discover why Jesus really is the Good News for all people!

## *Times & Location*

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday (July 10-12)  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
Mezzanine Level (Rooms 1-2)



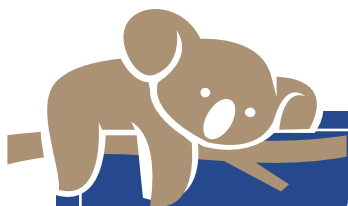
# AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

## *Congress Teens*

The 2025 Baptist World Congress Teens Program centers on Being the Good News in our world! The experience will feature high-energy worship sessions, meaningful group activities, and opportunities for connection. Each day, youth leaders will guide participants through engaging Bible explorations, thought-provoking discussions, and activities. Teens will join other teens from around the world as they explore how to share the Good News through their everyday lives.

## *Times & Location*

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday (July 10-12)  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
Mezzanine Level (Room 3)



## *Babies and Toddlers*

Room M9 on the Mezzanine level is set up as a quiet room for parents with babies to utilize for feeding or resting. There are also public Parent Rooms with all you need to feed and change in privacy and comfort located off the Merivale Street Main Foyer, just behind Merivale Cafe and off the Grey Street Main Foyer next to the Information Desk. You will also find change tables in all of the unisex-accessible toilets throughout the Centre.

Room M7/8 on the Mezzanine level is set up as a Toddler Room for use by parents with children under 4 and is equipped with toys and changing facilities. Plenary sessions will be streamed to this room.

These rooms will not be staffed by volunteers. Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times.

# ABOUT THE BWA



**BAPTIST  
WORLD  
ALLIANCE**

**NETWORKING THE BAPTIST FAMILY TO IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST**

The Baptist World Alliance, extending to every part of the world, exists as an expression of the essential oneness of Baptists in the Lord Jesus Christ. Together we share a common confession of faith in Jesus Christ and are bonded together by God's love to support, encourage, and strengthen one another while proclaiming and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit before a lost and hurting world.

For more than 100 years, the Baptist World Alliance has networked the Baptist family to impact the world for Christ with a commitment to strengthen worship, fellowship and unity; lead in mission and evangelism; respond to people in need through aid, relief, and community development; defend religious freedom, human rights, and justice; and advance theological reflection and leadership development.

The Baptist World Congress is presented by the BWA, which as of December 31, 2024, is a fellowship of 266 conventions and unions in 134 countries and territories comprising 53 million baptized believers in 178,000 churches.

**53** MILLION  
  
**PEOPLE**

**134**  
COUNTRIES  
& TERRITORIES

**6** REGIONAL  
FELLOWSHIPS

**266**  
MEMBER PARTNERS

 **178,000**  
BAPTIST CHURCHES



# OUR FIVE CORE MINISTRY AREAS



## **STRENGTHENING** *Worship, Fellowship & Unity*

Centered in Jesus Christ and rooted in deep spiritual life, we strengthen our worldwide family through ongoing gatherings; pastoral presence; mutual friendships; and the cultivation of worship, fellowship, and unity.



## **LEADING** *Mission & Evangelism*

Compelled by the Great Commission, we lead with a passionate commitment to Gospel witness in every context and people group; foster multidirectional partnerships that connect individuals and churches; and encourage global mission and evangelism.



## **RESPONDING** *through Aid, Relief & Community Development*

Challenged to generously love our neighbor, we respond to people in need; collaborate in times of crisis; network agencies; support sustainability and creation care; build capacity; empower local church engagement; and resource aid, relief, and community development.



## **DEFENDING** *Religious Freedom, Human Rights & Justice*

Committed to a biblical understanding of the image of God in every person, we defend an ethic of life; support religious freedom for all; stand in solidarity with the marginalized; advocate at every level; train and network proactively; and mobilize for religious freedom, human rights, and justice.



## **ADVANCING** *Theological Reflection & Transformational Leadership*

Called to discipleship, we advance multicultural and multilingual training; empower next generation leaders; encourage meaningful dialogue and praxis; and engage in relevant theological reflection and transformational leadership.



**STAY CONNECTED**  
**BAPTISTWORLD.ORG**

# CONGRESS HISTORY



The Inaugural Meeting of the first Baptist World Congress was held at Exeter Hall on Tuesday, July 11, 1905. His Honour Judge Willis, K.C., President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, occupied the chair, and the hall was crowded with the delegates, numbering nearly 3,000.

The meeting opened with the hymn:  
*"From distance climes, from every land,  
Behold us, Lord, before thee stand."*

At the inaugural Congress held in London, England, the pictured leadership was appointed to frame the BWA Constitution. Since the event in 1905, the BWA has convened the Baptist World Congress every five years, bringing together the most internationally diverse group of Baptists for worship, relationship building, and global mission.

**1st Congress**  
1905 • London, England

**7th Congress**  
1947 • Copenhagen, Denmark

**2nd Congress**  
1911 • Philadelphia, USA

**8th Congress**  
1950 • Cleveland, Ohio, USA

**3rd Congress**  
1923 • Stockholm, Sweden

**9th Congress**  
1955 • London, England

**4th Congress**  
1928 • Toronto, Canada

**10th Congress**  
1960 • Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**5th Congress**  
1934 • Berlin, Germany

**11th Congress**  
1965 • Miami Beach, USA

**6th Congress**  
1939 • Atlanta, USA

**12th Congress**  
1970 • Tokyo, Japan

# CONGRESS HISTORY

## 13th Congress

1975 • *Stockholm, Sweden*

## 14th Congress

1980 • *Toronto, Canada*

## 15th Congress

1985 • *Los Angeles, USA*

## 16th Congress

1990 • *Seoul, Korea*

## 17th Congress

1995 • *Buenos Aires, Argentina*



## 18th Congress

2000 • *Melbourne, Australia*

## 19th Congress

2005 • *Birmingham, England*

## 20th Congress

2010 • *Honolulu, USA*

## 21st Congress

2015 • *Durban, South Africa*



## 22nd Congress

2021 • *Virtual\**

\*Originally scheduled to be in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2020

## 23rd Congress

2025 • *Brisbane, Australia*

*Thank You for Being Part of Congress History!*

# REGIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

The BWA is blessed to partner with six regional bodies who work to contextually connect and support the members in their part of the world. Congress is the perfect opportunity to learn more about these vibrant ministries and to connect with others from your region. On Friday afternoon at 4:00 pm, come together for an energizing time of connection and collective envisioning with those from your region. Hear how God is at work among fellow sisters and brothers and explore new pathways for collaboration. Pray, grow, and engage with others from your home region. All are welcome to attend these sessions.

## REGIONAL GATHERING LOCATIONS

All Africa Baptist Fellowship – Boulevard B1  
Asia Pacific Baptist Federation – Plaza Auditorium  
Caribbean Baptist Fellowship – Boulevard Auditorium  
European Baptist Federation – Boulevard B2  
North American Baptist Fellowship – Boulevard Room  
Union of Baptists in Latin America – Boulevard B3



## PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL CARE

To older Australians and people living with disadvantage for over 80 years.

- Aged care homes
- Community services
- Community housing
- Disability services
- Home care
- Retirement living
- Chaplaincy and spiritual care

Proudly serving communities in ACT, NSW, SA, TAS, VIC and WA.

For more information, scan the QR code or visit [baptistcare.org.au](http://baptistcare.org.au)



*Because we care*



ALL AFRICA  
BAPTIST  
FELLOWSHIP

# Your Gateway to All Africa Baptist Fellowship

A Complete Resource to Engage,  
Support and Grow



Scan this **QR Code** to access a **full package of resources** that will help you connect more closely with the **All Africa Baptist Fellowship**. Take a moment to explore everything included.



## WHAT AWAITS YOU

Discovering the various mission activities of the African Baptist Mission Board (ABMB).

Exploring a golden opportunity through the E-Trans Project. This is a platform to be a shareholder, be in a win-win investment and contribute to the financial sustainability of AABF missions' drive.

Partnering to network the African Baptist Educational Network (ABEN).

Registering to join the Mission-financing Affinity Community Membership platform.

Coming from Diaspora to join God at work in Africa through J-SEE (Judea-Samaria-End of the Earth).

Mobilizing the Baptist family in your country to attend the 2025 AABF General Council Meeting in Bangui, CAR.

Praying and planning along ahead of the 2026 AABF General Assembly in Namibia.

Partnering to build 1,000 Bethany Centers across Africa.

Staying in touch by regularly visiting the AABF Website.

**NB:**

Please click the link or scan the QR Code on each page to know more about the initiatives and projects.





# ASIA PACIFIC BAPTIST FEDERATION

## PURPOSE

to bring Baptists Together  
Transforming Lives in Christ  
across the Asia Pacific.

## VISION

to see Renewed persons,  
healthy households, thriving  
churches and flourishing  
communities in the Asia Pacific.

For more information, visit  
our website: [abpf.org](http://abpf.org)  
or scan this  
QR code:



## OUR MINISTRIES:

ASIA PACIFIC BAPTIST  
THEOLOGICAL  
EDUCATION



ASIA PACIFIC  
BAPTIST MISSION



ASIA PACIFIC  
BAPTIST AID



BAPTIST WOMEN  
OF THE PACIFIC



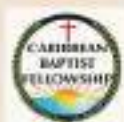
ASIA PACIFIC  
BAPTIST YOUTH



ASIA BAPTIST  
WOMEN'S UNION







## Enabling Baptists to Evangelise the Caribbean

Uniting 27 Baptist bodies across 17 islands and territories since 1970—speaking four languages, sharing one vision.

Since our founding in 1970, the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship (CBF) has empowered churches and believers through fellowship, mission, and theological education.

As a vibrant network of 27 member bodies, we stand together in times of natural and man-made disasters, partnering with local and global agencies to provide vital relief and aid.

We are passionate about discipleship, offering Sunday School and Christian education materials tailored to all age groups. Through conferences, festivals, and training—both in-person and virtual—we connect Youth, Women, and Men across the region.

Together, we are part of the Baptist World Alliance's 54 million Baptists in 151 countries, linked with 180,000 churches worldwide—advocating for peace and sharing the hope of Christ to all from our Caribbean home.

The CBF welcomes collaboration and partnerships that are mutually respectful and beneficial, as we work to impact our region and the world for Jesus Christ.

Join the mission. Partner with the CBF.

### Contact Us

Caribbean Baptist Fellowship

Email: [info@cbfellowship.org](mailto:info@cbfellowship.org)

Website: [www.cbfellowship.org](http://www.cbfellowship.org)

Follow us on Facebook | Instagram | YouTube



Rev. Dominique Dick (Guadeloupe)  
CBF President



Rev. Anslem Warrick (Trinidad & Tobago)  
CBF Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
BWA Regional Secretary

# EUROPEAN BAPTIST FEDERATION



## CONNECTING

THE EBF IS MORE THAN A NETWORK—  
IT'S A FAMILY.

We are a community of believers united in Christ and committed to one another. As the EBF family, we share in joys and struggles, pray for one another, and stand together across borders and cultures.



## CHALLENGING

WE ARE COMMITTED  
TO CHALLENGING

INJUSTICE, COMPLACENCY, AND ISOLATION.

EBF speaks and acts prophetically—advocating for peace, religious freedom, human rights, and kingdom transformation in society.



## COLLABORATING

WE WORK TOGETHER  
TO RESPOND TO GOD'S MISSION  
IN THE WORLD.

Through commissions, partnerships, and shared initiatives our collaboration strengthens local churches and equips them to serve faithfully and courageously in their unique contexts.

## STAY CONNECTED

Find us from:



... to see every  
baptist in Europe,  
Central Asia and the  
Middle East  
united in Christ



Europe • Central Asia • Middle East  
75 years together

# NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP [NABF]

*Rising Voices. Renewing Hope. Rebuilding Together.*

From prophetic witness to disaster response, theological collaboration to next-gen leadership, the NABF is a growing fellowship of Baptists across the U.S. and Canada, working together for greater impact and lasting change.

DISCOVER HOW YOU, YOUR CHURCH, AND YOUR  
CALLING CAN BE PART OF THIS SPIRIT-LED MOVEMENT.



[www.nabfellowship/engage](http://www.nabfellowship/engage)





**The 50th Anniversary of**  
**UBLA**  
**Latin American Baptist Union**

@ubla.online



**FROM APRIL 14-17, 2026**  
**Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**



# EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

## **A Rocha Australia • Stand 39**

Member of the A Rocha family of Christian nature conservation organizations living out God's calling to care for creation and equipping others to do likewise.

**Contact Name:** Julia Jardine- Executive Director

**Email:** [julia.jardine@arocha.org](mailto:julia.jardine@arocha.org)

**Website:** [australia.arocha.org](http://australia.arocha.org)

## **Alpha • Stand F**

Alpha is a series of free interactive sessions exploring questions of faith and life. The sessions are centered around a meal, talk (live or video), and open discussion.

**Contact Name:** Ryan Vallee

**Email:** [comms@alpha.org](mailto:comms@alpha.org)

**Website:** [alpha.org/national-offices](http://alpha.org/national-offices)

## **Australian Baptist Ministries • Stand 19-20**

Australian Baptist Ministries (ABM) is the national voice of Baptists in Australia, representing a diverse and dynamic movement of churches and ministries.

**Contact Name:** Michelle Sonsee – *EA to the National Ministries Director*

**Email:** [info@baptist.org.au](mailto:info@baptist.org.au)

**Website:** [baptist.org.au](http://baptist.org.au)

## **Baptist Financial Services • Stand 17**

For over 40 years, Baptist Financial Services has helped ministries get the funding and support they need to build and expand their ministry operations.

**Contact Name:** David Slinn – *Chief Executive Officer*

**Email:** [clients@bfs.org.au](mailto:clients@bfs.org.au)

**Website:** [bfs.org.au](http://bfs.org.au)

## **Baptist Insurance Services Ltd • Stand 17**

Baptist Insurance Services (BIS) delivers specialized expertise in risk management and comprehensive protection solutions, serving churches, schools, camps, and aged care providers across Australia.

**Contact Name:** Bronson Justus

**Email:** [Bronson.Justus@baptistinsurance.com.au](mailto:Bronson.Justus@baptistinsurance.com.au)

**Website:** [baptistinsurance.com.au](http://baptistinsurance.com.au)

## **Baptist Mission Australia • Stand 16**

We're Australian Baptists – passionately committed to God's mission, serving, sending, and partnering from everywhere to everywhere so more people may experience the hope of Jesus!

**Contact Name:** Scott Pilgrim  
**Email:** info@baptistmissionaustralia.org  
**Website:** baptistmissionaustralia.org

### **Baptist World Aid Australia • Stand 18**

At Baptist World Aid, we believe God's desire is a world without poverty and injustice. That's why we work toward ending poverty so all people can enjoy the fullness of life as he intends. With your support, we partner with local Christian organizations already working in 20 countries to help vulnerable communities emerge from poverty.

**Contact Name:** Jayden Battey  
**Email:** jayden.battey@baptistworldaid.org.au  
**Website:** baptistworldaid.org.au

### **Baptist Women of North America (BWNA) • Table A**

A network of Baptist women's organizations representing Canada and the United States. We are one of seven continental unions that are part of Baptist World Alliance Women, representing women from more than 150 countries. Our mission is to empower women to live out Kingdom life, especially in the area of helping the vulnerable. We exist to serve you and glorify Christ.

**Contact Name:** Patty Lane – *President*  
**Email:** BWNA.today24@gmail.com  
**Website:** BWNA.Today

### **Barnabas Aid • Stand 9**

Barnabas Aid seeks to bring hope to Christians who suffer discrimination, oppression or persecution because of their faith – working from Christians, through Christians, to Christians.

**Contact Name:** Ashley Saunders  
**Email:** ashley.saunders@barnabasaid.org  
**Website:** barnabasaid.org

### **Bastion Systems • Stand 36**

Bastion Systems empowers churches and denominations to a higher standard of stewardship for both people and property. Current service provider to Baptist Union Vic/Tas.

**Contact Name:** Steven Meredith  
**Email:** steven@bastionsystems.com  
**Website:** bastionsystems.com

### **Baylor University • Stand 33**

Baylor University is a private Christian University and Research 1 institution, blending interdisciplinary research with educational excellence and a faculty commitment to teaching and scholarship. At Baylor, we celebrate our distinctive place in higher education—where research, scholarship and faith guide the mind in understanding the complex diversity of God's creation and prepare the whole person for service and leadership.



**Australian Baptist Ministries (ABM) is the national voice of Baptists in Australia, representing a diverse and dynamic movement of churches and ministries.**

Rooted in the Gospel, we are committed to making Jesus known, equipping leaders, strengthening churches, and championing justice for the vulnerable.

Representing over 1041 churches and bringing together 6 State Associations and 5 Affiliated Ministries through our National Council. Our passion is to see lives transformed by faith in action.

For more information visit: [baptist.org.au](http://baptist.org.au)

## State Associations



## ABM Initiatives



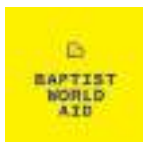
### **crossover**

Crossover provides encouragement, training and resources to help Australian Baptists share Jesus.



In creating a more just Australia, A Just Cause reflects the voices of those who are experiencing injustice.

## Affiliated Ministries



**Contact Name:** Anis Qourzal  
**Email:** Anis\_qourzal@baylor.edu  
**Website:** baylor.edu

### **Baylor University Lounge • Stand 24-25-26**

Baylor University is proud to be a member of the Baptist World Alliance, and throughout the week individuals from the world's largest Baptist university will be available to connect with you in the Baylor Lounge. Located near Door 5 to the Great Hall on the Mezzanine Level of the BCEC, the lounge is designed for conversation and fellowship. We hope to meet you there.

**Contact Name:** Charley Ramsey – *University Chaplain and Dean of Spiritual Life*  
**Email:** Charles\_Ramsey@baylor.edu  
**Website:** baylor.edu

### **Building a Discipling Culture • Stand 35**

BDC is focused on training and equipping church leaders to see real cultural change and disciples that know how to multiply.

**Contact Person:** Tim Brosnan – *Partnership Manager*  
**Email:** tim.brosnan@bdc.org.au  
**Website:** bdc.org.au

### **Capitol Ministries • Stand 27-28**

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ in the Political Arena Throughout the World.

**Contact Person:** Valeriu Ghiletschi – *Global Director of European Union*  
**Email:** valeriu.ghiletschi@capmin.org  
**Website:** capmin.org

### **Chasing Truth – Elizabeth Skinner • Table D**

Authored by Elizabeth Skinner, *Chasing Truth* equips Christian Pastors to recognize and address abuse in relationships. Equally a helpful guide for anyone caught in abuse.

**Contact Name:** Elizabeth Skinner  
**Email:** chasingtruth2025@gmail.com  
**Website:** Elizabethskinner.org

### **Community Transformation Center at Palm Beach Atlantic University • Stand 12**

The Community Transformation Center at Palm Beach Atlantic University is dedicated to

social change and chaplaincy and offers a range of graduate programs designed to create pathways for co-vocational ministry.

**Contact Name:** Emma Feyas – *Associate Director*

**Email:** [ctc@pba.edu](mailto:ctc@pba.edu)

**Website:** [pbactc.org](http://pbactc.org)

### **Creation Research • Stand 38**

Creation Research promotes Biblical creation and how real evidence supports Biblical history. Speakers and museums are located in Australia, UK, USA, and Canada.

**Contact Name:** Craig Hawkins

**Email:** [info@creationresearch.net](mailto:info@creationresearch.net)

**Website:** [creationresearch.net](http://creationresearch.net)

### **Dallas Baptist University • Stand 7**

The mission of Dallas Baptist University is to provide Christ-centered quality higher education in the arts, sciences, and professional studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels to traditional-age and adult students in order to produce servant leaders who have the ability to integrate faith and learning through their respective callings.

**Contact Name:** Dr. Daniel Edwards – *Assistant Vice President for External Affairs*

**Email:** [daniele@dbu.edu](mailto:daniele@dbu.edu)

**Website:** [dbu.edu](http://dbu.edu)

### **Global Surge • Stand 40-41**

A church planting urban ministry committed to reaching this generation for Christ and transforming them into reproducing disciples that will reach the world.

**Contact Name:** Melissa Crawford

**Email:** [melissa@globalsurge.org](mailto:melissa@globalsurge.org)

**Website:** [globalsurge.org](http://globalsurge.org)

### **Hungarian Baptist Aid • Stand 8**

Hungarian Baptist Aid is a humanitarian relief and development organization. We have responded to 70 disasters, worked in 65 countries, educated 14,500 students, and provided social care to 24,000 clients with 3,000 employees.

**Contact Name:** Bela Szilagyi – *President*

**Email:** [hbaid@hbaid.org](mailto:hbaid@hbaid.org)

**Website:** [hbaid.org](http://hbaid.org)

### **International Baptist Study Centre (IBTS) • Stand 13**

IBTS (formerly Ruschlikon) serves the European and worldwide Baptist community as a theological research community and training network through our PhD program and virtual learning network.

**Contact Name:** Enoch Šeba – *Director*

**Email:** seba@ibts.eu

**Website:** ibts.eu

### **Jews for Jesus • Stand 13**

Jews for Jesus is an international organization of Jewish people who believe that Jesus is the Messiah and Saviour of the world. We relentlessly pursue God's plan for the salvation of the Jewish people.

**Contact Name:** Alexander Adelson

**Email:** alexander.adelson@jewsforjesus.org

**Website:** jewsforjesus.org

### **Lost Sheep • Stand 11**

When Jesus wanted to change lives he told stories. That's what we do at Lost Sheep. Some of our stories are about Jesus, some by Jesus, but all point to Jesus.

**Contact Name:** Andrew McDonough

**Email:** andrew@lostsheep.com.au

**Website:** lostsheep.com.au

### **Life For Bangladesh • Stand 29**

Living and Sharing the Good News of Jesus in Bangladesh, through schools, Life Groups, conferences, training, church development and relief activities.

**Contact Name:** Peter Sarkar

**Email:** peter@life4bangladesh.org.uk

**Website:** life4bangladesh.org

### **Morling College • Stand 14**

Morling College is the Baptist Theological College for NSW, ACT, QLD, and WA, offering courses in theology, counselling, chaplaincy, and education.

**Contact Name:** Tim MacBride

**Email:** enquiries@morling.edu.au

**Website:** morling.edu.au

## **Queensland Baptists • Stand 2**

Queensland Baptists is a movement dedicated to sharing the good news of Jesus, His resurrection, the gospel, the cross, and the new life He gives.

**Contact Name:** Andie Eames

**Email:** admin@qb.org.au

**Website:** qb.org.au

## **San Marcos Baptist Academy • Stand 6**

San Marcos Academy, nestled in the picturesque Texas Hill Country, is a fully accredited private Christian school serving PreK through 12th grade students. As a college preparatory institution, the Academy offers a comprehensive curriculum designed to engage and inspire learners, equipping them for success in college and beyond. With a boarding program for students in grades 6–12, the Academy fosters a vibrant, diverse community that includes students from across Texas, the United States, and around the globe. Since its founding in 1907, San Marcos Academy has upheld a proud tradition of excellence in Christian education.

**Contact Name:** Corey Boyer – *Director of Recruiting and International Studies*

**Email:** boyerco@smabears.org

**Website:** smabears.org

## **Scripture Union • Table B**

Scripture Union is a global movement dedicated to sharing God's message of hope with children, young people and families; working across 120 countries, including Australia!

**Contact Name:** Joseph Kolapudi

**Email:** support@su.org.au

**Website:** su.org.au

## **Serve Nations Ltd • Table G**

To transform communities in Asia by training pastors, educating children, and developing sustainable programs that bring hope and the love of Christ to unreached people.

**Contact Name:** Michael Rodriguess

**Email:** servenations.au@gmail.com

**Website:** servenations.com

## **Sheridan Institute of Higher Education • Stand 34**

Sheridan Institute of Higher Education is a Baptist not-for-profit higher education institution in Perth, WA, offering tertiary degrees in Business and Education.

**Contact Name:** Darren Smith  
**Email:** dsmith@sheridan.edu.au  
**Website:** sheridan.edu.au

### **Voice of the Martyrs Australia • Table C**

We are founded on the desire to see the gospel of Jesus Christ shared in areas where Christians are persecuted for their faith.

**Contact Name:** Gregory Guerrero – *Relationship Manager Southeast Queensland*  
**Email:** gguerrero@vom.com.au  
**Website:** vom.com.au

### **Vision Christian Media • Stand E**

Vision Christian Media is a non-profit, non-denominational organization that provides crowdsourced Christian multimedia content across Australia. What started with hundreds of radio transmitters has grown to include a mobile app with unlimited reach, a national streamed news service, and online radio streams for youth and kids, as well as a 24/7 Worship stream.

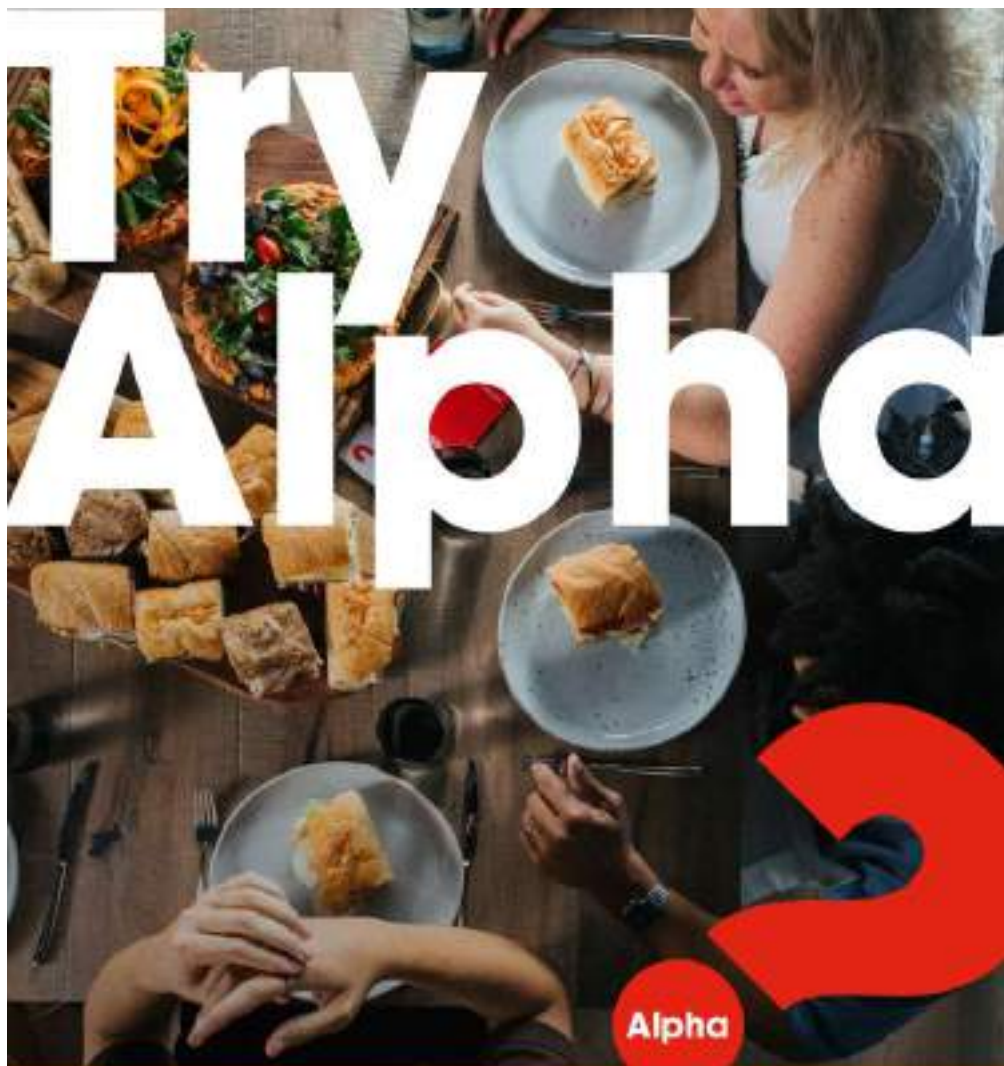
**Contact Name:** Walter Lus  
**Email:** wius@vision.org.au  
**Website:** vision.org.au

### **Whitley College • Stand 5**

Whitley College has served the Baptist community of Victoria and beyond for 135 years by offering theological education and ministry formation that equips students to think, live, and minister with confidence and humility as followers of Jesus. We offer a wide range of University Awards – from certificates in theology through to PhD research – including our specialist Transformation program for students from language other than English (LOTE) backgrounds.

**Contact Name:** Whitley Registrar  
**Email:** whitley@whitley.edu.au  
**Website:** www.whitley.edu.au





Alpha is one of the  
most powerful  
evangelism tools used  
around the world  
today... and it's **free**



To learn more about Alpha, visit

**alpha.org**

# EVENT PARTNERS

*The Baptist World Alliance is most grateful to the many organizations who have helped make this Congress a reality through their generous partnership / sponsorship.*

## **Baptist Care**

Baptist Care is a leading for-purpose Christian-based care organisation, offering exceptional care and service to the aged and people living with disadvantage for over 80 years.

**Contact Name:** Jenny Blok – *Chief Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Officer*

**Email:** [jblok@baptistcare.org.au](mailto:jblok@baptistcare.org.au)

**Website:** [baptistcare.org.au](http://baptistcare.org.au)

## **Baptist Care Australia**

Baptist Care Australia works to bring equality and opportunity to Australian communities, advocating nationally on social issues such as homelessness, aged care and domestic violence.

**Contact Name:** Dr Robyn Sampson – *Chief Executive Officer*

**Email:** [robyn.sampson@baptistcareaustralia.org.au](mailto:robyn.sampson@baptistcareaustralia.org.au)

**Website:** [baptistcareaustralia.org.au](http://baptistcareaustralia.org.au)

## **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship**

Led by the love of Christ, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship invites churches and individuals to partner in transforming God's world, working together as a global community to spread good news, justice and hope through impactful ministries, missions and resources. The BWA is grateful for CBF's sponsorship of the Congress water bottles, allowing us all to care for our environment.

**Contact Name:** Jeff Huett – *Chief Operating Officer*

**Email:** [jhuett@cbf.net](mailto:jhuett@cbf.net)

**Website:** [cbf.net](http://cbf.net)

## **International Ministries**

International Ministries is North America's oldest Baptist mission agency. We work cross-culturally, inviting people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and proclaiming God's justice, peace, and abundant life for all creation.

**Contact Name:** Natalie Brassinga – *Marketing Director*

**Email:** [nbrassinga@internationalministries.org](mailto:nbrassinga@internationalministries.org)

**Website:** [internationalministries.org](http://internationalministries.org)

# EVENT PARTNERS

## Joyya

We're Joyya! We're a purpose-driven bunch who believe in the transformative power of ethical business. We create high-quality, custom-branded apparel and merchandise, proudly made from 100% organic cotton and WFTO certified materials. But we don't just focus on ethical sourcing—we're deeply committed to social impact. By partnering with communities in places of extreme poverty, modern slavery, and the red-light districts of India, we help empower women with dignified, community-led employment opportunities. Each purchase you make doesn't just support a beyond ethical business—it directly contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty and providing hope for a brighter future. Our vision goes beyond simply offering better custom products; it's about creating a movement. We're here to help brands like yours align with their values, offering custom merchandise that's not just good for the planet, but also supports families overcoming adversity. When you choose Joyya, you're not just investing in quality, you're investing in a cause that creates real, lasting change. The BWA is grateful for the opportunity to support Joyya's ministry through their manufacturing of the Congress bags.

**Contact Name:** Zandri Spies

**Email:** [zandri.spies@joyya.com](mailto:zandri.spies@joyya.com)

**Website:** [joyya.com](http://joyya.com)

## Texans on Mission

Texans on Mission is an international ministry helping in disaster relief and water well drilling. We partner with BWA in both of these areas of ministry. The BWA is grateful for Texans on Mission's sponsorship of the Congress water bottles, allowing us all to care for our environment.

**Contact Name:** Mickey Lenamon – CEO

**Email:** [mickey.lenamon@tbmtx.org](mailto:mickey.lenamon@tbmtx.org)

**Website:** [texansonmission.org](http://texansonmission.org)

# EVENT SPONSORS

## SPECIAL SPONSORS



## GOLD SPONSORS



# EVENT SPONSORS

## SILVER SPONSORS



## BRONZE SPONSORS



## PARTNER SPONSOR



Visit the WHOVA App to learn more about our sponsors.

# **Audio, Lighting, Video, Broadcast**



CPC Production Services are proud technical production partners of the 23rd Baptist World Congress.

We have a strong commitment to excellence and the development of strong lasting relationships.

While our team has the expertise to support large national broadcasts, we remain deeply committed to helping the local churches use production to share the good news.



[cpcproductions.com](http://cpcproductions.com)





# HELPFUL INFORMATION

## AFTER HOURS CONTACT

If you have an urgent need outside Congress hours, please call +61 (0)493 292 035. If it is an emergency such as fire, medical, or need of police assistance, call 000.

## CHILDREN

### *Security*

The BCEC is open to the public at all times and other events may be running at the same time as Congress. Please take care of your children as you would in any public space. Children participating in the Children's program will have wrist bands as well as lanyards. If you find a lost child or are separated from your child, please connect with the nearest Congress Steward (in a blue vest) for assistance.

### *Quiet Room for Parents*

Room M9 on the Mezzanine level is set up as a quiet room for parents with babies to utilize for feeding or resting. There are also public Parent Rooms with all you need to feed and change in privacy and comfort located off the Merivale Street Main Foyer, just behind Merivales Cafe and one located off the Grey Street Main Foyer next to the Information Desk. You will also find change tables in all of the uni-sex accessible toilets throughout the Centre.

### *Toddler Room*

Room M7/M8 on the Mezzanine level is set up as a Toddler Room for use by parents with children under four and is equipped with toys and changing facilities. Plenary sessions will be streamed to this room. This room is not staffed by volunteers and children must remain in the care of a parent or guardian.

## EMERGENCIES

### *Emergency Contact – police / fire / medical emergency*

Should you encounter an emergency at the Convention Centre, please alert or contact the nearest Congress steward wearing a blue vest. If you are outside the building, please contact the Police at 000.

### *Evacuation*

For your safety, make sure you know the location of the nearest emergency exits. In the event of an emergency, there are two tones to warn of a fire or other situation which may require evacuation of the site.

# HELPFUL INFORMATION

**ALERT TONE:** beep, beep, beep. This means, stop what you are doing and await further instructions as to whether an evacuation will be required.

**EVACUATION TONE:** whoop, whoop, whoop. Remain calm and evacuate quickly to the nearest exit to the assembly area through emergency exits as directed by the Building or Floor Wardens.

The BCEC assembly point is located on the grass area at the corner of Merivale and Glenelg Streets (outside the main entrance).

## EXHIBITION

The Exhibition is situated on the Mezzanine Concourses and open 10:00 am to 7:00 pm each day with final closure at 5:00 pm Saturday.

## FIRST AID

If first aid is required, please see a Congress steward wearing a blue vest or go to the Information Desks in the Main Foyer. If you are in a life-threatening situation, please call 000 for urgent assistance.

## FOOD

There are various points for purchasing drinks and snacks around the BCEC, including the Merivale Cafe on the main entrance level and Olio Cafe at the Grey St entrance. Outside the Convention Centre there are many options of various cuisine styles and price levels - most can be found in the South Bank precinct towards the river.

## HEARING ASSISTANCE

Hearing loops are installed in all meeting rooms.

## INFORMATION

### *Congress Information Desk*

If you have any questions about Congress-related matters, please visit the Help Desk in the Registration area at the main (Merivale St) entrance of the Convention Centre. The desk will be open daily from 8:30 am until 20 minutes after the close of evening celebrations.

### *BCEC Information Desks*

If you have any questions about the BCEC, Brisbane or the area around the Convention Centre, BCEC has Information Desks located in the Main Foyer (Merivale Street entrance) and Ground Level Foyer of Grey Street.

# HELPFUL INFORMATION

## LANGUAGES

The official language of the Congress is English. We will be providing some sessions in other languages. Plenary Sessions and Preaching Symposiums will also have simultaneous interpretation into a number of languages. See the WHOVA App for more details.

## LEFT LUGGAGE

If you need somewhere to store luggage on your arrival or departure day, we recommend you ask your hotel to store it after you check out. If this is not possible, please ask at the Congress Information Desk in the main entrance foyer.

## LIFTS/ELEVATORS

Lifts/elevators and escalators connect all levels of the building and are fitted with audio information and braille buttons.

## LOST PROPERTY

If you lose anything, please go to BCEC's Information Desk in the Main (Merivale St) Foyer next to the Congress Registration desks and they will be able to direct you. If you find any lost property, please give it to a Congress Steward in a blue vest.

## MOBILE PHONES

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off or to silent during all meetings.

## PARKING

The BCEC operates a Southbank parking facility for guests and the general public. The car park is located undercover with direct lift access to the Centre. The car park is open 24 hours a day. Parking rates are posted at the car park entrances and ticket machines. Should you require assistance, please use the intercom located at the pay stations or exit gates.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

We ask you to be sensitive when taking photos of other attendees and ask their permission before sharing on social media and in other places. We have many attending from sensitive parts of the world and we need to be careful to protect their security. **Please DO NOT take photos of people with a white lanyard.** Please also do not use flash photography and remain in your seat when taking photos.

## PRAYER ROOM

The Prayer Room is located on the Mezzanine level in M5 and open 9:00 am-9:00 pm daily.

# HELPFUL INFORMATION

## REGISTRATION DESK

The Registration Desk will be open 9:00 am–7:00 pm from Monday, July 7, through Saturday, July 12.

## SMALL MEETING SPACES & SEATING AREAS

Need somewhere to meet up with friends and colleagues? Maybe a quieter space to sit alone and reflect? The Plaza Terrace Room is set up Thursday through Saturday with round tables that seat ten people for you to make use of to share time with friends new and old. Feel free to bring your lunch or dinner into the room and enjoy the fellowship.

## SMOKING

BCEC is a non-smoking venue. Smoking within the venue is not permitted. A designated smoking area is available on the external Plaza Terrace. Guests may smoke outside the venue, keeping 5 metres clear of entry and exit doors. The State of Queensland considers electronic, e-cigarettes, e-cigars and vape pens to be treated under the same regulations that apply to normal cigarettes. On the spot fines apply to users of these devices within the building or within five metres of entry and exit doors.

## STEWARDS AND VOLUNTEERS

We are grateful to the Queensland Baptists Stewarding Team who will be helping Congress attendees have a smooth experience. They will be identifiable by their light blue vests. Please make sure to follow their guidance at any time for the benefit of all attendees.

## WHEELCHAIRS

BCEC offers a complimentary wheelchair service. They have a limited number of wheelchairs available for visitors attending events to borrow on a daily, first come first served basis. Loan wheelchairs can only be used within the Centre. The wheelchairs are located at the Information Desks in the Merivale and Grey Street Foyers.

## WIFI

There is a free WiFi service throughout the BCEC for attendees to use.



23rd Baptist World Congress

# Join us on our official event app!

We're using *Whova* as our official event app. Join our event app to access:

- ➔ Event announcements
- ➔ Personalized agenda, session details
- ➔ Speaker & attendee profiles
- ➔ Networking, meet-ups, messages
- ➔ Event documents
- ➔ Faster check-in

How to join:

1. Scan the QR code and download Whova from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Sign in or create an account with the email you registered with.

Having trouble joining? Search for our event and enter the invitation code: bybl3fslhd



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



## THANK YOU AUSTRALIAN BAPTISTS!

On behalf of the BWA Congress Program Committee, led by Rev. Ronald Bobo, we just want to take a moment to say a heartfelt **thank you** to the Congress Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) based in Queensland and the many volunteers from around Australia for everything you've done for the Baptist World Alliance family.

You have been “Living the Good News” since the day you answered the call to serve on this amazing team. We all know that an event like this doesn't just happen on its own. It takes a team of committed, hard-working people behind the scenes—and Stewart Pieper and his amazing team of volunteers have been exactly that. What a gift you've been to all of us here in Brisbane and around the world! You all went above and beyond to make sure every detail was taken care of. Some of the tasks you faced weren't easy—some may have even seemed impossible—but you endured and made it happen.

So, saying “**thanks heaps**” doesn't feel like enough, but please know it comes from a place of deep appreciation and love. You've helped make the 23rd Baptist World Congress a truly unforgettable experience for thousands of participants from more than 100 countries who will continue to Live the Good News in their churches and communities with refreshed minds, stronger faith, broader fellowship, and renewed calling.

To all those who have contributed as speakers and facilitators – **thank you**. We are also grateful to all our Technical and Creative Teams who have provided so much texture, creativity, and variety to our time together, both for the Summits and the Main Congress Program. **Thank you**.

We also say **thank you** to everyone who has been at the Congress. Your attendance was not by accident. We trust God has spoken to you this week and encouraged and challenged you to be a disruptable disciple, a freedom pursuer, and an anointed proclaimer. May you leave the Congress renewed in your determination to live the Good News.

May God bless each one of you with joy, and may the connections made here grow even stronger as we continue working together for God's Kingdom. Once again, from all of us at the Baptist World Alliance family—**thank you** for an incredible job well done!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolina Carro de Mangieri".

Carolina Carro de Mangieri





## BWA CONGRESS TEAM

Elijah Brown • *General Secretary & CEO*  
Jenny Stewart • *Director of Ministries / COO*  
Carolina Carro de Mangieri • *Director of Global Events & Fellowship*  
Dana Seville • *Congress Assistant*  
Becky Hembery • *Congress Program Coordinator*  
The Entire BWA Team

## CONGRESS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Chair: Ronald Bobo  
Vice Chair: Merlyn Hyde Riley

Elias Apetogbo	Cassandra A. Jones	Jan Saethre
Elijah Brown	John S. Kok	Bijoy A. Sangma
Miyon Chung	Dave S. Kwok	TaNikka Sheppard
Robert L. DeVeaux	Tomás Mackey	Vesekhoyi Tetseo
Alan Donaldson	Tim McCoy	Starlette Thomas
Ayodele Gbode	Olu Q. Menjay	Anslem Warrick
John Hickey	Dean Miller	Karen Wilson
Parrish Jacome	Clinton Minnis	Mark Wilson

## NXTGEN SUMMIT TEAM

Paul Maconochie, Maddy Mandall, Tim McCoy, Isabella Senior,  
Kimberly Smith, Adam Southwood

## WOMEN'S SUMMIT TEAM

J. Merritt Johnston (*BWA Women Executive Director*)  
Verónica León Caro, Sherrie Cherdak, Siham Daoud, Karlene Edwards-Warrick,  
Julie Justus Williams, Patty Lane, Elissa Macpherson, Jane Mwangi,  
Vernette Myint Myint San, Barb Peck, Karen Wilson

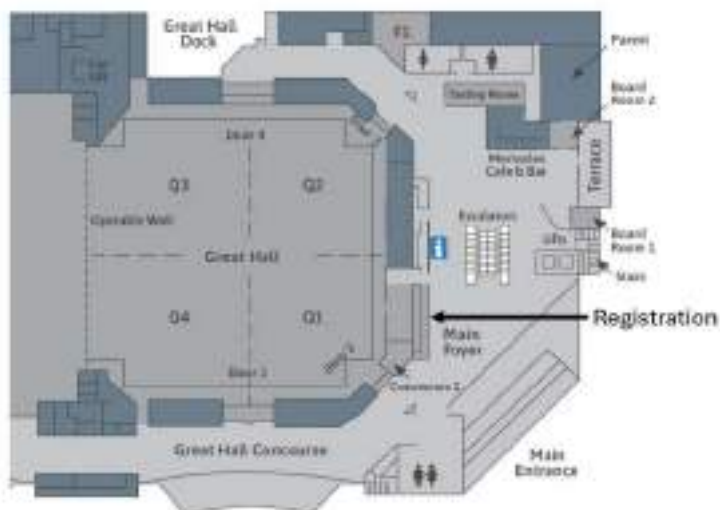
## LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Chair: Stewart Pieper	Prayer Room: Claude Hawkins
Core Team: Quintin Hickling	Teens Program: Ben Dainton
Core Team: Bronwyn Burgess	Tours & WCC Liaison: Andrew Grant
Administrator: Andie Eames	Translation / Interpretation: Emil Rahimov
Exhibition: Chelsea Sherwood	Ushers & Stewards: Jesse Webb
Kids Program: Sally Contessi	Welcome / Registration: David Elvery
Merchandise: James Harwin	

# VENUE MAPS

## Foyer Level

BCEC ON MERIVALE STREET



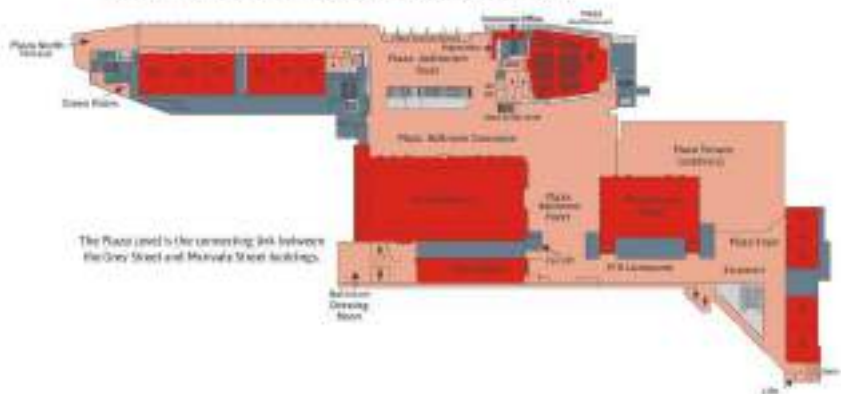
MERIVALE STREET

## Boulevard Level

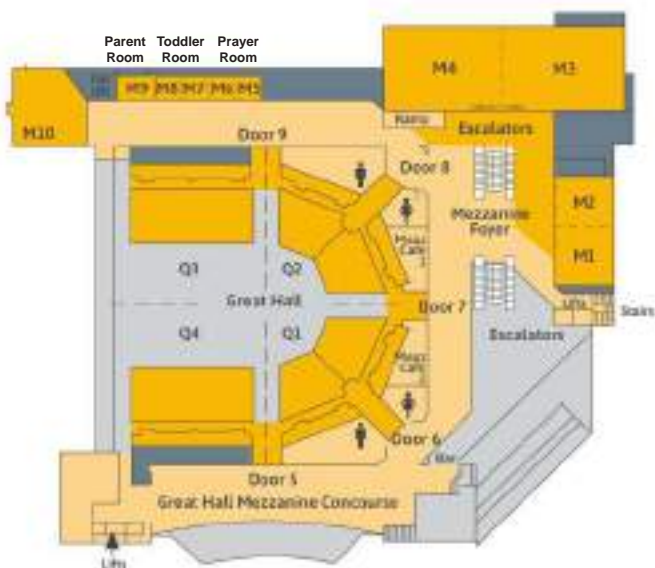
BCEC ON GREY STREET



## BOEC ON MERIVALE STREET &amp; GREY STREET



BCEC ON MERIVALE STREET



[illegible]

## DECOR ON MERVILLE STREET &amp; GREY STREET



**BRISBANE CONVENTION  
& EXHIBITION CENTRE**



Our city, your canvas.

BCEC.com.au



## NOTES

# NOTES



# A Word of Appreciation

The BWA is grateful for the support of our local sponsors:  
Tourism Australia, Tourism & Events Queensland, and the  
Brisbane Economic and Development Agency who helped make this  
2025 Congress a reality for the global Baptist family.

**brisbane**  
**australia**

[visit.brisbane.qld.aud](http://visit.brisbane.qld.aud)

*Queensland*  
**AUSTRALIA**

[Queensland.com](http://Queensland.com)



**TOURISM**  
**AUSTRALIA**  
[Australia.com](http://Australia.com)





THE GLOBAL CHURCH ON  
**GOD'S GLOBAL MISSION**

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

# 2033

**ACTS2**MOVEMENT

Join Baptists Worldwide in a 10-year, Spirit-led Initiative:

**Acts2Movement.org**